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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, how would you rate the chances of the Legislature passing a budget before the fiscal year ends on Oct. 1?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Safe or Not?

In the decade since the Sept. 11 attacks, we are safer but not safe enough.

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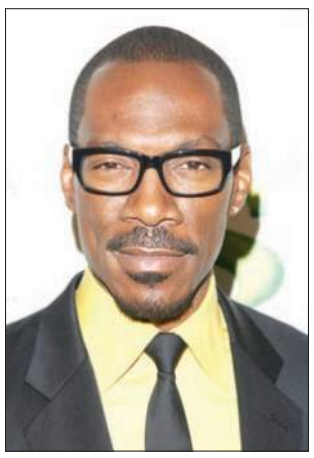

Oscar Host

Oscar is going back to its comedic roots with Eddie Murphy as host.

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DHS issues final worker rule

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security released late Tuesday night in the CNMI a 149-page pre-publication version of the much-awaited final rule governing foreign workers in the CNMI.

ON THE NET

- http://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2011/09/07/2011-22622/commonwealth-of-the-northern-mariana-islands-transitional-worker-classification.
- http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-09-07/pdf/2011-22622.pdf

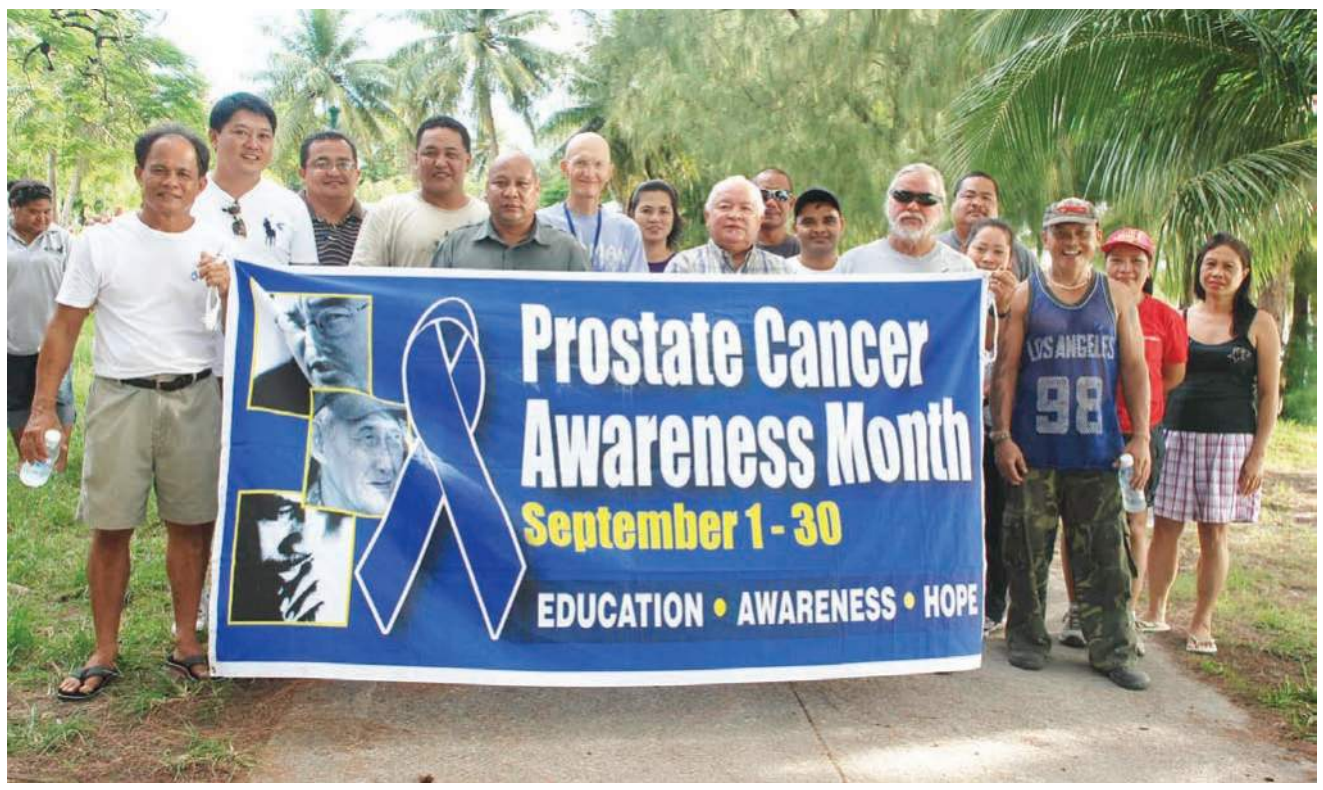
The rule creates a Commonwealth-only worker status—or CW permit—that will allow foreign workers to remain in the CNMI until the end of the transition period on Dec. 31, 2014.

See DHS on Page 4

FAST FACTS

- The transitional Commonwealth-only worker rule does not mention anything about improved immigration status for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.
- Employers will be the one to petition their employees for a CW classification.
- Anyone without a job is automatically out of status, and could face deportation after November 2011.
- Foreign workers with pending CW application as of Nov. 27, 2011, may lawfully continue employment in the CNMI, until a decision is made on the petition filed by his employer.
- Domestic helpers can no longer be employed directly by families; they can only be employed by businesses.
- Travel through Guam for Filipino workers traveling between the CNMI and the Philippines is allowed without a U.S. visa or a U.S. visa waiver, but they are not allowed to leave the Guam airport.
- Parole and advance parole are generally still required for temporary exit/re-entry to the CNMI.
- Foreign workers can have more than one job if they have employers who will sponsor them.
- The number of foreign workers who may be granted CW-1 status is capped at 22,417 for fiscal year 2011, and 22,416 for fiscal year 2012.
- When a CW worker loses his job, he has 30 days to find another employer who will file for a CW status for him.
- At the end of a foreign worker's job, it's his responsibility to repatriate himself. The employer's responsibility is only during the term of their work permit.
- The CNMI can have its own labor law as long as it does not pre-empt federal law.
- A CW status or visa is good only in the CNMI.

Source: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-09-07/pdf/2011-22622.pdf



HEALTH WALK

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Participants of the health walk pose for a group photo before the start of the walk from Oleai Beach Pavilion to the old Japanese tank and back yesterday afternoon. The health walk was part of the Prostate Cancer Awareness Month celebration. Another walk is scheduled on Sept. 27 from Garapan Fishing Base to 13 Fishermen Pavilion.

See story on Page 8

Fund to challenge new law in court

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees will meet today to discuss strategies and options as it prepares to challenge the newly signed Beneficiary Derivative Act in court.

Retirement Fund insiders told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that court action is the only way the Fund could retain the services of its money managers and investment consultant.

Sources revealed that the Fund's new investment consultant, Wilshire Associates, has already sent the Fund a letter informing it of its decision to pull out its service and terminate its contract with the Fund. Wilshire cited the enactment of the controversial derivative act as the impetus behind its decision.

The new law, which Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos

See FUND on Page 4

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Local

CNMI ranks 4th in shrimp production in entire US

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI ranked the fourth highest in shrimp farm production throughout the United States in 2010, surpassing other U.S. Pacific jurisdictions such as Guam and Hawaii.

In the shrimp farm production 2010 data compiled by Granvil Treece of the Texas A&M University, the CNMI harvested a total of 42,000 lbs of shrimp last year.

The state of Texas holds the top position with 2,526,648 lbs of shrimp harvested. Coming in second is Alabama with 248,900 lbs while Florida is in third spot at 90,368 lbs.

Guam ranks fifth next to the CNMI at 40,000 lbs while Hawaii is sixth with 18,000 lbs. South Carolina placed seventh with 7,000 lbs.

"As the agency responsible for aquaculture in the CNMI, we're very happy about this development," aquaculture specialist Michael Ogo of the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Resource Service told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ogo disclosed that he provided the shrimp production data to Dr. Hui Gong of the University of Guam who then provided it to Texas A&M University where she is an alumna.

According to Ogo, there are currently three shrimp farms in the CNMI: two on Saipan and one on Rota.

Of these three, Saipan Aquaculture Co. Inc., owned by businessman Tony Pellegrino, is the first major shrimp farm in the CNMI that produces the Marianas Sweet Shrimp.

In fact, a greater part of the CNMI data used by Texas A&M University for the 2010 ranking came from Saipan Aquaculture.

"He [Pellegrino] is what we call in the industry as the catalyst of aquaculture because of the success story of his shrimp farm," said Ogo.

Ogo disclosed that many are afraid to venture into shrimp farming because of the difficulties and challenges in sustaining it. More people choose to venture into tilapia farming, which is less challenging compared to shrimp farming, he added.

"That's why people who are not sure about shrimp farming, they look at Mr. Pellegrino's story and his success has encouraged them," he said.

Ogo also noted that many of Saipan Aquaculture's staff are

See SHRIMP on Page 4

Man arrested for beating up ex and relentlessly harassing her

A 43-year-old man was arrested late Tuesday afternoon after he allegedly relentlessly harassed his former girlfriend and beating her up.

Lucian Ignacio George also allegedly threatened several times to kill himself in front of the victim.

George was arrested for assault, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

At yesterday's hearing, Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman imposed a $1,750 cash for George's temporary release. Preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 15.

Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that throughout the relationship, whenever George gets drunk, he would take a knife and threaten to kill himself to show his love for her.

When the relationship ended, George allegedly kept calling the victim on her cell phone and at work. One time, George choked the victim and pinned her against a car.

In July 2011, the victim sought a temporary restraining order after George kept stalking her at her workplace. The court granted the victim a one-year protection from George. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

SAIPAN MAYOR'S OFFICE:

'Give us part of marriage license fees'

The Saipan Mayor's Office wants to get a portion of the fees paid when obtaining a marriage license to cover administrative costs, which are "not funded by the general fund."

The office, which is authorized to grant marriage licenses, is also mandated to preserve records of marriage and send a copy of the issued marriage certificate to the clerk of courts of the CNMI Superior Court.

These mandates add to the cost related to the administrative processing of a marriage license, the Mayor's Office stated in its report submitted to the Legislature.

"As the cost related to the processing of a marriage application, preserving of record and providing a copy of a certificate to the Superior Court are solely the Office of the Mayor of Saipan's, we request that the Legislature consider appropriating a sum from the total collection to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan," the report said.

From January 2011 to August 2011, the mayor's office received 158 applications but it filed a total of 168 applications, including those from the governor's office.

The mayor's office received $11,260 from these marriage application and marriage certificate fees.

The month of May posted the highest in fee collection, with $1,400 collected from marriage application fees and $560 in marriage certificate fees. ***(Clarissa David)***

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ICE repatriates Saluta from Guam to the Philippines

» Court asked to return Saluta's $525 cash bail to his wife; OAG objects

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Noel Sacramento Saluta failed to appear at his Aug. 16, 2011, sentencing in the Superior Court because Immigration and Customs Enforcement took him to Guam and repatriated him "under escort" to the Philippines on Aug. 17, according to court documents.

Saluta

Saluta's counsel, assistant public defender Douglas Hartig, recently submitted to the Superior Court letters from Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig and ICE supervisory detention and deportation officer Vida A. Leon Guerrero that confirmed Saluta's deportation to the Philippines.

Hartig attached the letters in Saluta's motion to return the latter's passport and the $525 cash posted for his release to his wife.

Upon Macaraig's inquiry on Saluta's whereabouts, Leon Guerrero informed him on Aug. 18 that Saluta was "repatriated under escort" from Guam to the Philippines aboard Continental flight 191 at 8:10am on Aug. 17. Macaraig then immediately informed Hartig about Saluta's whereabouts.

In May, a Superior Court jury found Saluta guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon charges for chasing a man with a knife. Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, who decided on the misdemeanor offense, found Saluta guilty of disturbing the peace.

In Saluta's motion to exonerate bail, Hartig said the defendant's wife posted bail on Oct. 5, 2010, after borrowing $525 in order to secure his release from jail. Saluta's passport was also surrendered to the court. Hartig said that Saluta fully complied with all bail conditions.

Hartig said the CNMI government has made no motion for forfeiture of the bail. "There is nothing before the court to cause it to not return the bail and passport as posted," Hartig said.

The lawyer said that Saluta missed just one court appearance because federal authorities had detained him. Prior to that, Saluta appeared as ordered six times before trial and each day of trial, Hartig said.

Even if the CNMI government were to move for forfeiture, Hartig said the motion should be denied, or at least any forfeiture should be set aside and the bail and passport returned.

Hartig said in this case, Saluta's failure to appear in court was not willful and so justice mandates that any forfeiture be set aside.

Citing *Smaldone v. U.S.*, Hartig said the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals had determined it to be an abuse of discretion not to remit bail to a defendant who missed a trial date due to a medical condition that required immediate surgery.

In that case, Hartig said, the defendant could have risked health and life to attend court if he so chose.

In Saluta's case, Hartig said his client was being physically held by federal authorities.

Hartig said Smaldone chose not to go to court to save his health, while Saluta did not choose not to go to court as he was forcibly prevented from attending.

"The fact that Mr. Saluta was held and physically prevented for attending court does the same," the lawyer pointed out.

Hartig said it seems clear that the government tried to facilitate Saluta's non-appearance by trying to expedite his removal.

The Office of the Attorney General had opposed Saluta's motion to exonerate bail and further moved the court for an order forfeiting the $525 bail.

Chief Prosecutor Michael Ernest said the court should deny the motion for exoneration of bail because Saluta is presently a fugitive from justice and that the Office of Public Defender appears to be filing a motion on behalf of the surety, and not its client.

Ernest said because Saluta has failed to appear, and is currently a fugitive from justice, he should be stopped from arguing for the exoneration of bail or against forfeiture of bail.

As a fugitive from justice, Ernest said, Saluta should not seek relief from the judicial system whose authorities he evades.

Ernest said Mrs. Saluta assumed the risk her husband would be deported and was presumably familiar with his immigration status.

"There is absolutely nothing in the record to suggest she did anything to prevent Saluta's removal or bring him back to the CNMI, and there is nothing on the record to suggest Saluta has attempted to return for sentencing," the chief prosecutor said.

Ernest said public policy dictates that those awaiting deportation know that bail won't always be returned.

Naraja heard the motion on Tuesday. He asked the parties to submit supplemental pleadings and continued the hearing to Oct. 27.

Saluta attracted the public's attention after he and his wife brought their five children—then ages 7, 6, 4, 2, and a 6-month-old baby—to the Susupe Beach Park stage on Aug. 24, 2010, after their six-month housing aid program benefits expired.

Saluta's removal has left his wife alone to take care of their children. It was not clear whether Mrs. Saluta has a job now.

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DHS

From Page 1

Of particular importance, however, is the requirement that a foreign worker should already have a CW permit—or their application should already be in process—by Nov. 27, 2011, or they will face deportation. That gives employers less than three months to apply for CW permits for all their foreign employees.

The final rule will be published in the Sept. 7 (or Sept. 8 CNMI time) issue of the Federal Register.

The full text of the Commonwealth-only transitional worker regulations can be accessed at http://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2011/09/07/2011-22622/commonwealth-of-the-northern-mariana-islands-transitional-worker-classification. To download a PDF file, click on http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-09-07/pdf/2011-22622.pdf

Employers will be the one to petition their employees for a CW classification. Foreign workers cannot petition themselves to obtain such status.

However, foreign workers with CW status may petition to have their alien spouses and alien minor children remain with them in the CNMI for the period they are employed.

Spouses and children of workers with CW status may not work unless they have a separate work authorization.

Fees

The fee for Form I-29CW is $325, to be paid by the employer in petitioning for a CW worker.

There is also a mandatory CNMI education funding fee of $150 fee per beneficiary.

An $85 biometrics fee may also be collected for each beneficiary of a CW petition.

DHS estimates that 16,258 foreign workers and 1,176 businesses in the CNMI are subject to the final rule.

Of this number, 13,399 foreign workers are potentially eligible for CW status.

But at least 950 private domestic household workers will not be eligible for a CW status, DHS said.

The federal agency also said there are 183 out-of-status workers, as estimated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as of Dec. 31, 2009.

Workers will still be required to apply for parole and advance parole for travel purposes.

Sigh of relief

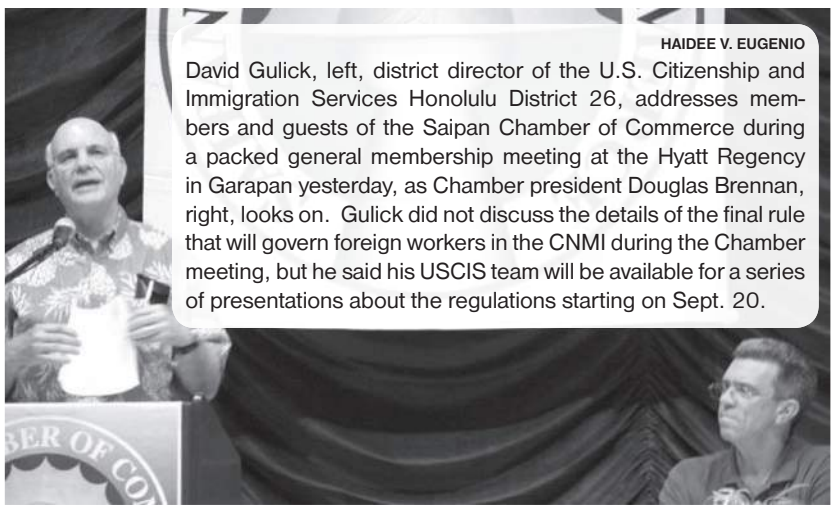
Employers, workers, the Fitial administration and other community members heaved a sigh of relief upon the release of the CW rule, although many have yet to fully read the regulations as of yesterday.

David Gulick, district director for DHS' U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Honolulu District 26, hopes the community will view the release of the regulations as "good news."

Gulick was one of the guest speakers at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting at the Hyatt Regency yesterday, but he said he could not discuss the details of the final worker rule until it's published in the Federal Register.

Hyatt's Sandcastle was packed to capacity as employers or their representatives wanted to hear from Gulick about the worker rule.

While they didn't hear much from him yesterday, Gulick said he and his USCIS team will be available for presentation about the CW rule starting on Sept. 20.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

David Gulick, left, district director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Honolulu District 26, addresses members and guests of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce during a packed general membership meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Garapan yesterday, as Chamber president Douglas Brennan, right, looks on. Gulick did not discuss the details of the final rule that will govern foreign workers in the CNMI during the Chamber meeting, but he said his USCIS team will be available for a series of presentations about the regulations starting on Sept. 20.

Gulick will also be holding a news conference this afternoon to talk about the regulations.

DHS received 146 comments to the interim final rule.

They were all reviewed and considered in the publication of the final rule.

Douglas Brennan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber will thoroughly review the final rule, and see how it's going to affect the business community.

"What I do understand from the document is it's going to be employer-based. The employer needs to file the petition; the employees cannot file on behalf of themselves," he said.

When asked whether it's worth the wait, Brennan said, "Worth it or not, I don't know. I know the delays have caused a great deal of anxiety within the business and employee community in the CNMI, the workers. At least it's out right now. We've got a few months to address it before November 2011. We just got to start moving quicker."

Marian Aldan Pierce, chair of the Marianas Visitors Authority board, said the release of the final rule will finally answer lingering questions.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said he will ask DHS to consider extending the grace period for foreign workers to find employers, before they could be considered out of status.

"We will ask if they could extend it until early 2012," said Syed, whose movement continues to press for improved immigration status, particularly "green card" or pathway to U.S. citizenship for foreign workers who have been in the CNMI for at least five years.

The final rule is published almost two years since the CNMI's immigration came under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009, pursuant to U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

DHS published an interim rule on a new CNMI-only transitional worker classification on Oct. 27, 2009, but a U.S. District Court stopped its implementation following a lawsuit from the CNMI government.

There's less than three months to go before the Nov. 27 expiration of the two-year period allowed under the federalization law wherein workers can still remain in the CNMI using a Commonwealth-issued permit.

After Nov. 27, foreign workers need to have a U.S. employment visa such as a transitional CW visa or an H visa, or they could face deportation.

'Pleased'

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said he's pleased with the changes made by USCIS to the worker rule.

"I believe the changes that USCIS has made to their rules will make this an easier process for both employers and employees. The federalization law is punitive and poorly thought-out, but USCIS has tried to make the necessary fixes where they can," he said in a statement.

Fitial said he and USCIS Director Ali Mayorkas, during a meeting on Feb. 23, exchanged views on the implementation of the CNRA, or the federalization law.

"When I met with Director Mayorkas, I emphasized to him the need for relief for our workers who transit through Guam, especially to the Philippines. The new rule provides the relief I requested," he said.

Philippine nationals who work in the CNMI are exempted from some travel restrictions.

Under the final rule, Filipino workers who hold a CW status or intend to apply for a CW status may travel between the CNMI and the Philippines through Guam without a U.S. visa or the appropriate visa waiver "so long as the travel is on a direct Guam transit itinerary." They are not allowed to leave the Guam airport.

It should also involve no more than eight hours of scheduled flight stopover or connection between flights in Guam.

Fitial said this will be a substantial help in easing the cost of travel for individual workers and their families.

During his meeting with Mayorkas, Fitial told the federal official that 10 days was not long enough for employers to make a hiring decision and for workers to locate new employment after a contract ended.

The prior rule provided that after 10 days, the worker would be out of status.

"Thus, I am pleased that the new rule now provides for a 30-day period as I requested and as Commonwealth law previously provided," Fitial said.

Executive order

But the governor also pointed out that the new rule, like the initial rule, does not allow individuals to hire foreign workers as caregivers, a concern shared by Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP).

Only businesses can hire aliens as caregivers and for other kinds of household work.

Fitial said his special legal counsel met with USCIS in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday on this issue and other details of how the regulations will work.

"I have decided that I will soon issue an Executive Order permitting individuals who pay for the care of another person, and who hire an alien for that purpose, to apply for a CNMI business license as a sole proprietor. This is permitted under CNMI law, and I think it is the best way to accommodate our need for caregivers," the governor said.

He said the CNMI has a particular need for caregivers in the Commonwealth because it does not have nursing homes and assisted living facilities like they do in the U.S. mainland.

"Also, many of our frail elders have very limited incomes, so they cannot afford to hire caregivers through domestic service agencies. Fortunately, USCIS has provided for a waiver of the permit fees in cases where the employer cannot afford to pay. This will help our sick and elderly residents who may not have the means to pay the fees for the petition to hire an alien," he added.

The Fitial administration said the new rule also helps employers "very substantially" by providing that they may employ alien workers on a temporary basis while their petitions for employment of aliens are pending.

USCIS will allow employers to file their petitions for their current alien workers any time up until Nov. 28, 2011.

These petitions will then go to the USCIS California Service Center, which will issue either a grant or a denial.

Jobs for locals

The Fitial administration reiterated that CNMI employment law applies to all jobs held by aliens, and employers will be required to provide a sworn statement that they are in compliance with CNMI law and will remain in compliance during the one-year period for which the petition is approved.

"They don't really have any 'permits' in their new system. They have 'approved petitions' instead," Fitial noted.

The governor said that in his view, the comment process "was very instructive for USCIS."

"It should not have taken them as long as it did to get the rule out, but that didn't have much to do with the comment process. That was due to USCIS' internal processes that also delayed the initial rule back in October 2009," he added.

FUND

From Page 1

enacted Tuesday, allows beneficiaries of the retirement fund program to sue on behalf of the Fund if the board refuses to bring such legal action.

Saipan Tribune learned that the Fund asked Wilshire yesterday to reconsider its decision, promising to "do something" to retain Wilshire's important services.

Fund insiders said that Wilshire initially agreed to stay on if the new law is challenged in court. A decision must be made on the matter today, however, as failure to do so would result in the termination of Wilshire's contract.

Besides Wilshire, money managers have also expressed a similar decision, Fund sources said. Fund officials and trustees were reportedly meeting since Tuesday, discussing the law's impact.

The Fund earlier said that if Wilshire pulls out, no firm will be willing to contract with the Fund to manage its assets. That would result in the forced liquidation of the Fund's portfolio. The estimated opportunity cost of being out of the market for an extended period is $9 million per year.

Board of trustees chair Sixto Igisomar declined to comment yesterday when asked for comment but confirmed the board's meeting today.

Igisomar had earlier announced that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial does not support the beneficiaries derivative bill and had promised the Fund that he will not sign it.

The measure passed both houses and was transmitted to the governor on Aug. 16. By law, the governor had 45 days—or until Sept. 24—to act on the bill. In the case of his disapproval, the Legislature has 60 days to override the governor's veto.

Inos signed the bill on Tuesday on behalf of the governor, who arrived from an off-island trip Monday night. *Saipan Tribune* learned that Fitial was only made aware of the signing of the law when informed by Fund officials Tuesday.

Inos, in his transmittal letter to the Legislature, indicated that contrary to the Fund's position, the number of litigations and cost of doing business is unlikely to rise as a result of the measure. He said the legislation has measures in place to prevent frivolous claims.

Another bill against the Retirement

Sources disclosed yesterday that a new bill that is expected to be introduced soon in the House will allow "unlimited" withdrawals by defined contribution plan members.

Proponents of the measure, according to sources, have already informed their colleagues of the bill's introduction. The plan is to remove the 15-year restriction on the withdrawal of contributions.

As of yesterday, no bill pertaining to the retirement program has been prefiled.

The pension fund's investment portfolio is currently valued at just $271 million.

Fund officials earlier said the depletion of the investment fund was mostly a result of laws passed by the Legislature that gave generous benefits to members and suspended the government's employer contribution to the Fund for 18 months, among others.

To fulfill its pension obligation to members, the Fund draws down about $75 million a year from its investment funds.

SHRIMP

From Page 2

"good and knowledgeable," having received various trainings including at the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, which "makes them more credible."

Saipan Aquaculture operations manager Mel Catalma said that they only found out about the rankings online.

"It's a big honor not only for our shrimp farm but for the whole CNMI," he said in an interview.

While he welcomes the great news, Pellegrino said the aquaculture and agriculture industries in the CNMI still face a big challenge in the form of exorbitant freight and shipping costs.

He hopes to address this challenge through Cargo Air Bridge, a cargo airline company Pellegrino is spearheading which will serve as a figurative bridge between Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam.

"It will be a ray of hope for us," Pellegrino said, adding that the cargo airline will enable them to export not just shrimp but also other local produce to neighboring islands.

House could give new casino bill to Senate for introduction

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House leadership is considering sending its new draft casino bill to the Senate for the latter's introduction, even as members of the House leadership plan to meet this morning with the governor to, among other things, know whether he will sign the local casino bill that the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation passed on Aug. 26.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said if some members of the Senate are serious about considering this time around a Saipan casino bill, then they could introduce the bill themselves.

Palacios said the bill is now being drafted by the House leadership.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), when asked for comment, said the Senate already has a reasonable proposal to ask voters on their position about casino gambling.

Palacios

The Senate is tapping Northern Marianas College students for a special survey among Saipan voters whether they would like casinos to be legalized on island.

Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said the draft casino bill takes Rep. Stanley Torres' (R-Saipan) local casino bill and converts it into a regular House bill.

But during yesterday's leadership meeting, Tenorio said there were further recommended changes to the draft bill, including the distribution of revenues from casino operations, including business gross revenue and gaming revenue.

Tenorio said some 70 percent of all revenues derived from the establishment of casino operations will be from gaming revenues, and 30 percent will be from other activities such as hotel and restaurant earnings.

He said he's willing to distribute 10 percent of the casino gaming revenues as follows: 25 percent for Rota, 25 percent for Tinian, and 50 percent for Saipan.

But during the leadership meeting, other members recommended that the distribution be 10 percent for Rota, 10 percent for Tinian, 40 percent for Saipan, and 40 percent for the NMI Retirement Fund, said Palacios.

Tenorio said the most important reason for a casino bill is to save the Fund.

He said he's recommending that all business gross revenue tax collected from casino operations should go directly to the Fund until all the unfunded liabilities are wiped out. After that is paid off, the BGRT will go to the general fund, he added.

As of yesterday, there's no telling when this draft bill will be finalized or whether the House leadership would really send it to the Senate for introduction.

The Senate killed a House casino bill last year, and is also threatening to bring to court the local casino bill that the Saipan delegation recently passed.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), author of the local casino bill, said he does not want to get involved with the drafting of a new House casino bill.

"I'm satisfied with my local casino bill that's now with the governor. …Unless the governor rejects it, then I will not get involved with other casino bills," he added.

The Senate president, meanwhile, reiterated that approving a casino bill won't solve all of the CNMI's economic woes.

Judge junks habitual offender's petition to stop his deportation

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona of the U.S. District Court for the NMI granted the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's motion yesterday to dismiss a petition for habeas corpus filed by a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia who is a habitual offender.

Manglona denied Mariano Angkel Shiano's petition and lifted the court's temporary order that stopped Shiano's deportation from the Commonwealth.

Manglona issued a two-page order based on a review of the record. She said a separate decision will follow.

Shiano, through counsel Stephen C. Woodruff, filed the petition for habeas corpus in connection with his detention pending removal.

On May 31, 2011, an immigration judge ordered that Shiano be deported. He was scheduled to depart on July 5, 2011, but he filed the petition for habeas corpus.

In July 2011, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David Wiseman temporarily stopped Shiano's deportation, saying the court needs more time to consider the petition.

In the petition, Woodruff argued that Shiano has no criminal history subsequent to the May 8, 2008, enactment of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act (federalization law) or the Nov. 28, 2009, extension of the territorial reach of the Immigration and Naturalization Act to the CNMI.

Citing precedent, Woodruff asserted that the U.S. Supreme Court condemned precisely this kind of retroactive application of the law as is involved in this case.

ICE official Gerald Zedde and ICE acting supervisor Beth Limerick, who are named responded by Shiano in the petition, asked the court to dismiss the petition.

Department of Justice's senior litigation counsel Theodore W. Atkinson, on behalf of Zedde and Limerick, asserted that Congress clearly intended that aliens who have past crimes in the CNMI would be inadmissible and are thus deportable. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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320 public school employees to be paid with federal funds

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A large number of Public School System personnel will be paid using federal funds amounting to $11 million this fiscal year.

PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh said the salaries of 320 employees will be paid by various federal programs administered by PSS.

Majority of these federally funded employees are support staffers and classroom teachers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Sources of funding are the consolidated grant and special education program grants, among others.

"We're estimating over $11 million in total salary cost for all these 320 employees," said Thornburgh in a visit to his office.

The salaries of about 800 other employees will be paid using local funding, he added.

He disclosed that PSS has approximately over 1,100 employees as of last week, of whom 575 are classroom teachers.

Under the House-approved version of the budget plan for fiscal year 2012—which starts in Oct. 1—public schools will receive just $27.9 million for personnel and operations. This amount is short of the minimum needed to meet the maintenance-of-effort requirement of the U.S. Department of Education. which provides numerous federal grants to the school system.

The Senate, which is expected to tackle today a new version of the budget, has indicated that it will give PSS a higher allocation.

Board of Education chair Marylou Ada, board member Herman T. Guerrero, and Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan all declined to comment on the House budget bill, pending the action of the Senate.

The board and PSS had asked for a $36 million budget for 2012—some $8 million higher than the $28 million that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial eventually asked the Legislature for PSS in his budget submission.

According to PSS finance director Richard Waldo, PSS expects "big trouble" if the budget plan does not change. He declined to elaborate but hinted that this may result in a huge shortfall for the school system.

"It will be a very tough year for us if they will not change the budget figure for PSS. We will be in big trouble," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The $32.4 million in combined federal assistance that PSS got last fiscal year through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the one-time state fiscal stabilization fund will expire this month.

Waldo told *Saipan Tribune* during a recent board meeting that these grants saved the school system in addressing many important obligations such as the salaries of several teachers, payment for utilities, and other immediate needs of school campuses. The bulk of the state fiscal stabilization fund was used to modernize and renovate all 20 public schools throughout the Commonwealth.

MAN'AMKO ELECTION CLARISSA V. DAVID

Congregates at the Aging Center in Garapan cast their votes during the Saipan Senior Advisory Council election held Tuesday. Candidate Maria Salinas garnered the highest number of votes at 44. The other winners were Rita Reyes, Christiana Michael, Alejandra Blas, Meryalen Conrad, Teresita Sorroza, Elena Villanueva, Siyau Muna, and Manuel Mesa. The election had a 75 percent turnout, with only 50 of the 67 voters casting their ballots.

Jealous woman, cop boyfriend struggle for gun

» Woman arrested for taking cop's service firearm

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In an fit of jealousy, a woman allegedly took the registered firearm of her policeman boyfriend during a fight at their house in As Perdido on July 31. As they struggled for possession of the .9mm pistol, the officer allegedly choked his girlfriend, prompting her to throw the gun away.

Jenypy Naim Sambile, 24, a government employee, was arrested Tuesday after investigators determined that she was the initial aggressor in the scuffle.

Sambile, who lost to Tara Namauleg in the CNMI's first women mixed martial arts match in December 2008, was brought to the Superior Court yesterday morning on charges of possession of a firearm and carrying a firearm. Her bail was set at $1,000 cash and $9,000 unsecured bond.

Associate judge David A. Wiseman directed Sambile to hire her own attorney. Preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 14 at 9am.

Sambile was directed to stay away from her boyfriend, traffic officer Josef Palacios Deleon Guerrero, witness police officer Norris Kwon, and other potential witnesses.

A police report by detective Peter A. Aldan states that an off-duty police officer had contacted Patrol field supervisor John Mendiola on July 31 at 2:55am to inform him about a domestic dispute involving Sambile and her boyfriend, Deleon Guerrero, who was then off-duty, at their residence. When a police officer arrived at the residence, Deleon Guerrero was no longer there, Aldan said.

Aldan said the investigation showed that off-duty traffic officer Kwon, Deleon Guerrero, and Sambili were at GIG in Garapan when an argument erupted between Sambile and Deleon Guerrero. The argument only ended when Sambili drove away.

Sambile then allegedly called Deleon Guerrero and Kwon on their cell phones several times and sent them text messages, where she allegedly threatened to break a police car and another message saying it's too bad that Deleon Guerrero left behind his gun. She told Deleon Guerrero that his fault was that he showed her how to use the gun.

When Kwon and Deleon Guerrero arrived at Sambile's residence, Sambile was sitting at a picnic table in front of her residence holding Deleon Guerrero's police-issued .9mm sidearm on the table. She refused to hand him the sidearm, prompting Deleon Guerrero to wrestle with her for the gun.

Sambile's father heard the commotion and stepped outside the house.

During the struggle, Deleon Guerrero grabbed Sambile's neck in a chokehold, causing her to throw the gun away. Sambile's father picked up the gun and secured it.

The two ended up arguing in the kitchen. Deleon Guererro then left the house on foot.

During his interview with Deleon Guerrero on Aug. 2, Aldan said that Deleon Guerrero told him that Sambile apparently found the gun hidden inside a storage bin.

On Aug. 3, Aldan called Sambile for an interview about the case, but she told him he should not talk to her because she never called 911 and that she never filed any complaint against Deleon Guerrero for any domestic violence.

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SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 04, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

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/S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Statewide Independent Living Council
"Yes I Can!"
P.O. BOX 506296, SAIPAN, MP 95950
TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2011 Fourth General Membership Meeting on Friday, September 9, 2011 at the Giovanni's, Hyatt at 9:00am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Roll Call
II. Adoption of Agenda
III. Review and adoption of July 07, 2011 Minutes
IV. Reports
- Chairman
- OVR Director
- CLI Director

V. Old Business
- CLI Visit & Tour
- NDEAM

VI. New Business
- Election of Officers

VII. Announcements
VIII. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Elvira Seman (Council Liaison) two days in advance for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Stephen Dutro
SILC Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
PO Box 506296 Saipan, MP 96950, TEL.: (670)322-6537 FAX: (670)322-6536
TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2011 Fourth General Membership on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at the Azucena II, Fiesta Resort at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Presentation by Excelsior Advantage, Inc.
IV. Review and adoption of Agenda
V. Review and adoption of the FY'11 3rd Meeting Minutes (07/06/11)
VI. Reports
a. OVR Director
b. SRC Chairman
c. Sub-Committees
VII. Old Business
- 2011 NDEAM

VIII. New Business
- Election of Officers

IX. Consumer Forum
X. Announcements
XI. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) two days before the meeting. For more clarification, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

/s/ Jesus M. Elameto
CHAIRMAN

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ROSA TUDELA CABRERA BANIK, Petitioner,	]	**FCD DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 11 - 0377**
vs.	]	**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**
TAPAN KUMAR BANIK Respondent,	]	

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 500818 Chalan Kanoa Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2011

/s/ Clerk of Court

261 eligible for SHEFA scholarship; 78 denied aid

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Over 200 students applying for scholarships with the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance were found eligible for awards while close to 80 were denied assistance for not complying with requirements.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider disclosed that, as of yesterday, 261 applications have qualified for the awards while 78 received notices of ineligibility, or denial letters.

A total of 776 applications were submitted to SHEFA by July 1, the deadline for fall 2011 semester awards. Based on the program's initial assessment, Hofschneider estimates that 525 will get a share of the $1.5 million scholarship budget for this academic term.

Applicants have until Sept. 30 to submit supporting documents: class schedules, transcript of records, voter's registration, and memorandum of agreement or promissory note with SHEFA.

Hofschneider said the final number of eligible applicants will be known after Sept. 30; their names will be endorsed to the board for approval.

Classes for the fall 2011 semester have already begun at the Northern Marianas College and in many universities and colleges off-island.

SHEFA scholars and their families are currently paying for all expenses while waiting for the approval of their financial assistance.

In the spring 2011 semester, SHEFA received over 700 applications; 498 were approved. In the previous fall 2010 semester, the number of applicants reached 776. Of that number, 525 were approved.

Despite the reduced awards being handed out by SHEFA these days and the persistent delays in the release of grant checks, Hofschneider said many students still apply for assistance due to the financial hardships being experienced by families.

Hofschneider said that SHEFA is still waiting for the Department of Finance to disburse about $90,000 worth of checks covering $14,000 for spring 2011 scholars and $76,000 for Framingham State University graduates in the fall 2010 semester.

Hofschneider disclosed that a new check request for fall 2011 scholars will be submitted to Finance next week.

Each fiscal year, the Legislature appropriates $3 million for SHEFA programs.

Rose Dance School turns 2

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rose Dance School successfully marked its second year anniversary with 70 current and former students as well as regular customers taking part in the celebration at the dance studio on Saturday.

Dance instructor Eden Quizon said that several dance performances such as rumba, chacha, and salsa by himself, instructor Resty Joson, and school owners Rose Chan and Carol Wong Chan entertained guests at the party.

Quizon said they also had a trivia game that drew the participation of guests because of exciting prizes that included gift certificates from KFC, Canton Restaurant, and Venus Beauty Salon.

"We're very happy about the successful anniversary celebration," Quizon told *Saipan Tribune*. "We hope that more individuals will sign up for our lessons at Rose Dance School."

Rose Dance School promotes dancing as a fun and healthy activity as it helps burn calories, increase energy levels and flexibility, sharpen coordination and reaction time, improve posture, attitude and mental health, as well as reduce stress levels.

Aerobics classes are held at the 4-H Club in Susupe Monday to Friday, from 7pm to 8:30pm, for only $1 per visit. Aerobics classes are also available at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan from Monday to Thursday, 6pm to 7:30pm.

Ballroom and Latin Dance classes, meanwhile, are available for special groups and are held Monday to Saturday from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Individual lessons are also available by appointment and cost $50 per four sessions.

Friday nights are ballroom nights at Rose Dance School. An entrance fee of $5, inclusive of one drink, is charged from 9pm to 12:30am. Ballroom classes are also available on Saturdays from 6pm to 8pm.

For more information, call 233-7236.

TO PROMOTE ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

PSS to create junior achievement program for high school students

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Public School System, in collaboration with the Northern Marianas College and the Commonwealth Development Authority, will create a junior achievement program that will promote entrepreneurship among high school students.

Board of Education member Galvin Deleon Guerrero said the program's objective is to cultivate work-readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy among students by giving them practical experience in running a business.

While the junior achievement system offers many programs from kindergarten through high school, he said the focus this year will be on high school students through the Junior Achievement Company Program.

The JA Company Program encompasses business, entrepreneurship, and economics curriculum for students in grades 9 through 12. It emphasizes business content while providing a strong focus on social studies, mathematics, reading, and writing skills.

Students under the program are encouraged to use innovative thinking to learn business skills that support positive attitudes as they explore and enhance their career aspirations.

Based on the program's curriculum, through a variety of hands-on activities and technological supplements designed to support different learning styles, students develop a better understanding of the relationship between what they learn in school and their successful participation in a global economy.

The program is a series of 12 meetings and is recommended for after-school hours with average time for each meeting lasting 90 to 120 minutes. It is also strategically developed to align with academic content areas. The program provides interactive, take-home materials, including access to an online career assessment.

"We're very excited to launch the JA program again in the Northern Marianas. With the help of CDA, NMC, the Guam chapter of Junior Achievement, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the entire business community, and, of course, PSS, we are confident that the program will help our students become productive members of their local and global economies," said Deleon Guerrero, himself an NMC official coordinating the efforts for NMC.

He said the program will be offered to PSS high school students—the target population. It will serve as an extra-curricular program held after school hours.

NMC, meantime, will provide logistical support such as printing and copying documents for the program.

Deleon Guerrero said other than the start-up kit for each student company, which is being funded by federal funds for innovative programs, the program will be self-funded by student companies as they sell shares for their companies.

The NMI JA program will be coordinated with the Guam chapter of the junior achievement program.

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Men join health walk vs prostate cancer

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

About 50 community members joined in the first health walk organized by the Department of Public Health as part of the Prostate Cancer Awareness Month celebration.

The walk was held yesterday from the Oleai Beach Pavilion to the old Japanese tank across the Quartermaster Road and back.

Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores, Public Health medical director Dr. Dan Lamar, and some members of the Master's Basketball Association led yesterday's walkers, composed of mostly men.

"I'm glad that majority of our walkers are men but we were expecting more since we promoted the walk," Kimberly Sablan, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month committee chair, told *Saipan Tribune*.

Prior to the walk, Sablan said that the first 30 male walkers will receive a free pedometer and shirt. The next 70 male walkers will receive only a free shirt.

Joanne Ogo, comprehensive cancer control program coordinator, said the first 25 male walkers can also avail of a free health screening.

"We thank you for taking time off of your busy schedule and taking part in this health walk. Our important message to all is for you to get screened," Ogo told the walkers, adding that screenings are available at the Commonwealth Health Center and in private clinics.

Sablan also thanked all sponsors and donors for the month-long celebration. They include Foremost/Coca-Cola, Saipan Grand, Coral Ocean Point, Hyatt, Aqua Resort, Mariana Resort, Lollipops, Joeten Superstore, Shirley's Susupe, Power 99, Gold's Gym, Pacific Trading, Saipan Shipping, PIC, Benjamin A. Sablan, Reps. Antonio P. Sablan, Ray Basa, and Rafael Demapan, and Sen. Pete Reyes.

Another health walk will be held on Sept. 27 from Garapan Fishing Base to the 13 Fishermen's Pavilion and back.

CLASSES BEGIN MONETH G. DEPOSA

Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcinas is seen assisting a parent of a special education student during yesterday's opening of classes on campus. Hopwood registered a total of 1,250 students as of Tuesday, which is a 20-percent increase from last year's enrollment of 1,046.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Eat Out For the Environment on Friday

To help preserve our precious natural resources, residents of Saipan are encouraged to eat out on Friday, Sept. 9, 2011, at select restaurants who have agreed to donate a portion of their revenue from that day to the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance. In this first ever "Eat Out for the Environment" event, participating restaurants include Aoi (at the Saipan Grand Hotel), Chambre Restaurant (at the Fiesta Resort), Shirley's Restaurant, 360 Restaurant, Shenanigan's and Naked Fish.

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance is a community-based, nonprofit organization that was formed by a group of people whose dedication and compassion for the environment felt the need to promote and advocate for the protection and restoration of our natural resources in the Commonwealth. Some of the projects that MINA has been involved in include the Marine Debris Program, the Environmental Teach Camp, Obyan Revegetation Project, the Tasi Watch Program, the No-Need Bag Campaign, and other projects. ***(MINA)***

September meeting of Autism Society

The Autism Society of the CNMI will be holding its monthly meeting on Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011, at 10am at NMPASI. Information regarding the group and future meetings will be available at this meeting. All families and friends of individuals with autism and autism-related spectrum disorders or other disabilities are invited to attend. For additional information, call 235-7274 or send an email to as_cnmi@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Air Force training on FDM today

SANTA RITA, Guam-The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Sept. 8, from 10am to 9:30pm.

The general public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(USN)***

Veterans outreach in September

Tina San Agustin, the Department of Veterans Affairs' legal administrative specialist for Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, will be on Saipan on Sept. 28-29, 2011, for a Veterans Outreach on veterans' federal benefits. She will be also entertaining questions and assisting veterans and all concerned with their claims.

Agustin will be stationed at the Military and Veterans Affairs Office on Capitol Hill, building 1364, Saipan, from 8:30am to 4:30pm on both days.

For those who wish to make an appointment or for further information, contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs at 664-2650. ***(PR)***

Farmers' signup for transport cost reimbursement ends Sept. 9

The deadline to apply for the 2011 Reimbursement of Transportation Costs Program is this Friday, Sept. 9, 2011. The program offsets a portion of the costs farmers and ranchers incur when transporting their products over long distances. It assists farmers and ranchers in Hawaii, Guam, CNMI, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau.

Applicants must file their RTCP application for benefits with their local Farm Service Agency county office no later than Sept. 9, 2011. Applicants will have until Nov. 4, 2011, to provide supporting documentation of actual costs of transporting agricultural inputs and commodities in fiscal year 2011 to the FSA county office.

For more information on the new RTCP program, farmers and ranchers in the eligible areas can visit their local FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport. ***(USDA)***

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Burglary and theft incident

Crime Stoppers is seeking the community's assistance for information on a burglary and theft incident that occurred on a car parked at the beach across the street from Century Travel, Beach Road, Garapan. On Friday, Aug. 30, at about 2pm, the victim, a Korean tourist, 31, was with another Korean male, 38. They parked a 2004 silver Nissan Titan truck by the bunker located across the street from Century Travel and went diving. About an hour later they returned to discover the victim's personal items missing from inside the car.

The stolen items include a Sky cellular phone valued at $900, a black Casio watch valued at $160, and about $100 in cash. There were no signs of forced entry. It is possible that the suspect (s) used a key, which was hidden in the car's gas tank. DPS and Crime Stoppers are seeking help from the public. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272, should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.com. Crime stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information lending to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(Crime Stoppers)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy 11th birthday greetings go out to Isa Marie Cabrera! We love you! Greetings come from your siblings Nathaniel, Do', DJ, Christen, and Baby Carl!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Tito Bryan Gil H. Chan! We wish you only the best on your special day. Thank you for all your "treats." We love you! Greetings come from Queen Anne, Daphne Rylee, Keeno, and Louis!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 8, 2000

CUC hits back at Rota mayor

Fending off criticisms over its alleged inaction on pending water and power line projects on Rota efforts, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has assured steps have been taken to secure approval from the federal government. Rota Mayor Benjamin T. Manglona urged CUC early this week to expedite the installation of power lines at Sinapalo III in the island municipality following complaints from residents. At the same time, he criticized the government-owned utility firm for delaying the project which has received funding of $175,000 from local legislators on Rota.

House seeks meeting with DPS, MVA for reopening of Koban

The House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations has expressed concern on the effect of the continuous closure of the Koban in Garapan amid the increasing criminality activities. Rep. Dino Jones, chair of the committee, said he will meet with the Department of Public Safety and the Marianas Visitors Authority to discuss ways that could pave the way for the possible reopening of the Koban because of the need to protect the island's tourism industry. While he recognizes the financial problems besetting DPS has hindered the department from assigning police officers in the Koban, Rep. Jones noted the need to designate DPS personnel in the area to ensure the safety of tourists.

Sept. 8, 2002

Tinian's historic road gets a facelift

TINIAN-Built immediately after World War II by thousands of American Seabees, Broadway is a strip of two parallel roads over 3,000 feet long stretching from the northern to southern tips of Tinian. The over 50-year old historical road is finally getting a repavement, and the Federal Highway Authority is footing the bill as part of infrastructure development. "[On Friday] we assessed the potholes, cracks and other dangerous fissures in the road," said Ernie Hofschneider, resident director of the Department of Public Works on Tinian. According to Hofschneider, Broadway is the main thoroughfare of the island. "It is critical to road safety to address the Broadway repavement, because to get anywhere on Tinian, one has to drive on Broadway--trucks, buses, and private vehicles all drive on it daily."

DOLI bars businessman from hiring nonresidents

The Department of Labor and Immigration permanently barred a Japanese businessman from hiring nonresident workers in the Commonwealth, following his failure to comply with the terms of an award order in favor of three workers. Labor hearing officer Vicente C. Seman also ordered that Hideki Furuta be barred from holding "a Commonwealth Immigration 706 classification of entry permit," pursuant to existing immigration rules. This impacts on Furuta's business plans in the Northern Marianas. Seman also cautioned the departments of commerce and of finance of possible business application by the Japanese, advising the departments to consult with the DOLI on this.

Sept. 8, 2003

Student appeals case vs NMC, instructor

Meredith Oden, the student who had filed damage claims against the Northern Marianas College and accused an instructor of sexually harassing and molesting her in 1996, has elevated her legal battle to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Oden's lawyer, Douglas Cushnie, filed with the CNMI Supreme Court a notice of appeal Thursday, following the local court's affirmation of the dismissal of her damage claims. The High Court agreed with the Superior Court's decision to dismiss the case filed by the student on Aug. 16, 2000, on the ground that the filing exceeded the prescribed period.

Babauta leads DOI confab presentation

Gov. Juan N. Babauta will lead off the introductory remarks during the opening ceremonies for the first ever Investment Development Conference for the U.S. Territories that will start tomorrow in Washington D.C. Based on the agenda provided on the conference website, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Interior David Cohen will introduce the four governors of Guam, the CNMI, American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands, where they will deliver brief remarks. Babauta will be introduced first, followed by Guam Gov. Felix Camacho, American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono, and U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. Charles Turnbull. Interior Secretary Gale Norton will then deliver her keynote address.

Pacific

Kiribati leadership ponders floating island to fight sea rise

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP)—The president of the Pacific island nation of Kiribati is so worried about climate change wiping out his country that he's considering ideas as strange as building a floating island.

President Anote Tong raised the notion Wednesday on the opening day of a meeting of Pacific leaders in Auckland. Climate change has become a central theme of this year's Pacific Islands Forum thanks to the presence here of United Nations Secretary-General leader Ban Ki-moon, who has vowed to put the issue at the forefront of the U.N. agenda.

Ban visited the Solomon Islands and Kiribati before coming to New Zealand and said it only strengthened his view that "something is seriously wrong with our current model of economic development."

Tong said he'd seen models for a $2 billion floating island, which he likened to a giant offshore oil platform. He said while it sounded "like something from science fiction," every idea had to be considered given the dire situation facing Kiribati, a low-lying archipelago with a population of 103,000.

AP

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, center right, accompanied by Solomon Islands' Prime Minister Danny Philip, center left, is escorted by traditional Solomon dancers on his arrival at Honiara International Airport Saturday evening, Sept. 3, 2011 in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Other ideas to combat rising ocean levels include building a series of seawalls at a cost of nearly $1 billion, Tong said, and relocating some residents to other Pacific nations. But he said he couldn't imagine a day that Kiribati was abandoned.

"Would Kiribati disappear?" he said. "Never. Never."

Tong said some people have already lost their homes to rising sea levels. He said he's yet to see much in the way of financial aid from Europe despite ambitious pledges.

But in an interview with the Associated Press, European Commissioner for climate action Connie Hedegaard, who was attending the conference, said Europe has granted more than 7 billion euros for specific environmental projects around the world over the three years ending 2012.

"Climate change is not just a theoretical future. It is actually happening," Hedegaard said. "It is destabilizing areas of the world."

Hedegaard said she's dismayed governments around the world haven't reached broad agreement on reducing carbon emissions. However, she said, she is heartened that many companies and municipalities are stepping in where governments are not—as much to save money on resources as for concern over the environment.

"I see a lot of good things happening out on the ground now," she said.

Hedegaard praised Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard's push to introduce a tax on carbon emissions. That plan will go to a vote next week.

Gillard, who has been facing political pressure at home and who has been criticized for her carbon-tax plans, told reporters Wednesday that she was sure the tax plan would pass because it has enough support among lawmakers.

The Pacific leaders leave for a retreat Thursday on Waiheke Island before the conference ends. Many leaders are staying on for the Rugby World Cup, which begins here Friday.

Crew of sinking yacht rescued after activating distress beacon

APRA HARBOR, Guam—The crew of a sinking yacht activated a distress beacon 140 miles west of the Republic of Palau and was rescued from a life raft Wednesday by a nearby cargo ship.

Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center watchstanders received an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon notification at approximately 1:15a.m. Wednesday. Watchstanders then issued a "Safety Net" broadcast asking for any Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue vessels in the area to assist.

The crew of the cargo vessel Double Happiness immediately responded to the broadcast. The crew of the Double Happiness made communication with the crew of the 45-foot motor yacht Perle. The crew of the yacht reported the vessel was quickly taking on water.

The crew of the Perle was located by the Ao Hong Ma at 6:45a.m. They were transferred from their life raft aboard the cargo ship. All survivors are reported to be in good health and will remain on board until the cargo ship arrives in Taiwan.

"In a situation like this, it really shows why the AMVER system can play an important part in our search and rescue operations," said Kinney Blas, Sector Guam search and rescue controller. "The boat was in immediate danger, and it would have taken more than 48 hours for a Coast Guard patrol boat to arrive on scene. We are thankful that mariners who are part of this system are willing to go out of their way to help other mariners."

AMVER, sponsored by the U.S. Coast Guard, is a unique, computer-based, and voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea. With AMVER, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond.

For more information about AMVER, visit www.amver.com. ***(USCG)***

Port Carling girl meets shark hero

MUSKOKA, Ontario, Canada—When 7-year-old Kassidy heard that over 100,000,00 sharks a year were being killed just for their fins, she jumped into action.

For this 1st grade student from Port Carling, asking her family and friends to sign the petition to save sharks simply wasn't enough. In three short days she gave a presentation in every classroom at Algonquin Ridge Elementary in Barrie, collecting over 600 signatures to support shark fin ban legislation in Toronto.

Rob Stewart, the award-winning filmmaker behind Sharkwater was blown away when he received her petitions. "Kassidy has done more to save sharks than most adults have. Kids have the power to change the future of our planet; we've seen it happen in Saipan, Guam and now it's happening here in Ontario. We can all learn something important from her."

To thank her personally, Stewart invited Kassidy to the recent "Making Waves for Wildlife" fundraising event for the Muskoka Wildlife Centre where Stewart gave a keynote address about species and ecosystem conservation.

"I feel that this experience has profoundly affected Kassidy." Said Kassidy's mom, Suzanne, "I was so surprised to see her tongue-tied—that is a very rare occasion." Kassidy, who aspires to become a veterinarian, learned that even though she is young, she can make a difference.

And Kassidy's efforts continue to grow; the Muskoka Wildlife Centre has placed her petition at their facility and is collecting even more signatures.

Stewart continues his mission to save sharks worldwide, hosting a fundraising event in his hometown of Toronto to help support the Fin Free Toronto campaign launched by his non-profit organization, United Conservationists, on Sept. 14.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Seven-year-old Kassidy meets with her hero, Rob Stewart, the award-winning filmmaker behind *Sharkwater.*

Stewart is a wildlife photographer, filmmaker and passionate speaker who travels the globe to share his message of conservation. His ground-breaking film Sharkwater has earned over 35 international awards and inspired a shark conservation movement that has helped change government policy worldwide. ***(PR)***

Navy awards $16.8M task order to small biz

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas awarded a $16.8 million firm-fixed-price task order on Sept. 1 to Bulltrack-Watts A JV, a small business, for the construction of a new Combined Support Maintenance Shop at the Guam Army National Guard Barrigada complex.

The California-based company will provide for construction of a pre-engineered metal building with cast tilt-up concrete panels and masonry block interior partitions. The building will consist of a specially designed maintenance facility, maintenance work bays, and administrative and personnel work areas.

"Our current maintenance areas are limited, following the tremendous growth we have experienced over the last several years," said Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, the adjutant general, Guam National Guard. "This maintenance project, once it is complete, will help bring our current facilities to a level that matches the maintenance needs of our organization and provide the space and work areas considered necessary, as we continue to grow and train to serve our island, and our nation in the near future."

This task order was awarded under a previously awarded small business multiple award construction contract.

"Historically, small businesses have been the engines to fuel America's economy," said Capt. John Heckmann, NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer. "This award is another fine demonstration of our close coordination with the small business community in identifying capable industry partners to fulfill mission critical requirements in our joint Military environment."

Work is expected to be completed by April 2013. Six proposals were received for this task order. ***(NAVFAC)***

DOJ gives GovGuam $659,856 for violence vs women programs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam DelegateMadeleine Z. Bordallo announced yesterday that the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded the Government of Guam $659,856 in federal financial assistance.

The federal funds received will be administered by the Office of the Governor and distributed, based on statutorily established proportions, to government and nonprofit stakeholders as part of the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant.

The STOP Program encourages the development and implementation of effective, victim centered law enforcement, prosecution, and court strategies to address violent crimes against women and the development and enhancement of victim services in cases involving crimes against women. The program promotes partnerships between law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and victim services organizations to enhance victim safety and hold offenders accountable for crimes against women. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

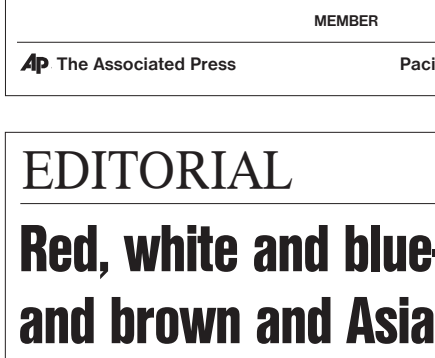
Red, white and blue—and black and brown and Asian, too

A report last month from the Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program contains a profound policy question for leaders of America's cities: How do they respond to a population that increasingly is black, brown and Asian?

The report shows that between 2000 and 2010, America's 100 largest metropolitan areas became ever more populated by "minorities," so much so that in 22 metro areas, minorities now make up a majority of the population.

Indeed, non-whites and Hispanics accounted for 98 percent of population growth in the 100 largest metro areas between 2000 and 2010. Nationwide, the Hispanic and Asian populations each grew by 42 percent. The black population grew by 12 percent. The white population grew only 1.2 percent. Forty-two of the 100 largest metros actually lost white population.

Where did they all go? Remember, we're talking metropolitan areas here, so suburban flight wouldn't account for the loss.



Some of the urban white population may have moved farther out. But most of them simply died faster than they were replaced, either by new births or in-migration.

Whatever the cause, Brookings demographer William H. Frey reports, America's cities are "on the front lines of a transformative era affecting public policy and race relations for decades to come."

Among the challenges Frey sees posed by these changes is how communities "will provide social, educational and health services to rapidly changing, diverse Hispanic and Asian communities who speak a variety of languages and represent different origins."

These dry numbers become more urgent when they're placed against a political background. As one era gives way to another, deep feelings of dislocation can result. The "I want my country back" mantra of the Tea Party is one manifestation.

Brookings talks about a "cultural generation gap" between young and old on issues like immigration, education and the competition for scarce public dollars. "These gaps will become most prevalent within large metro areas, especially within the suburbs, where the divides will be most apparent," Frey predicts.

America and Americans are changing, and changing rapidly. As a nation, we can choose to whine about it or make it work for everyone's benefit.

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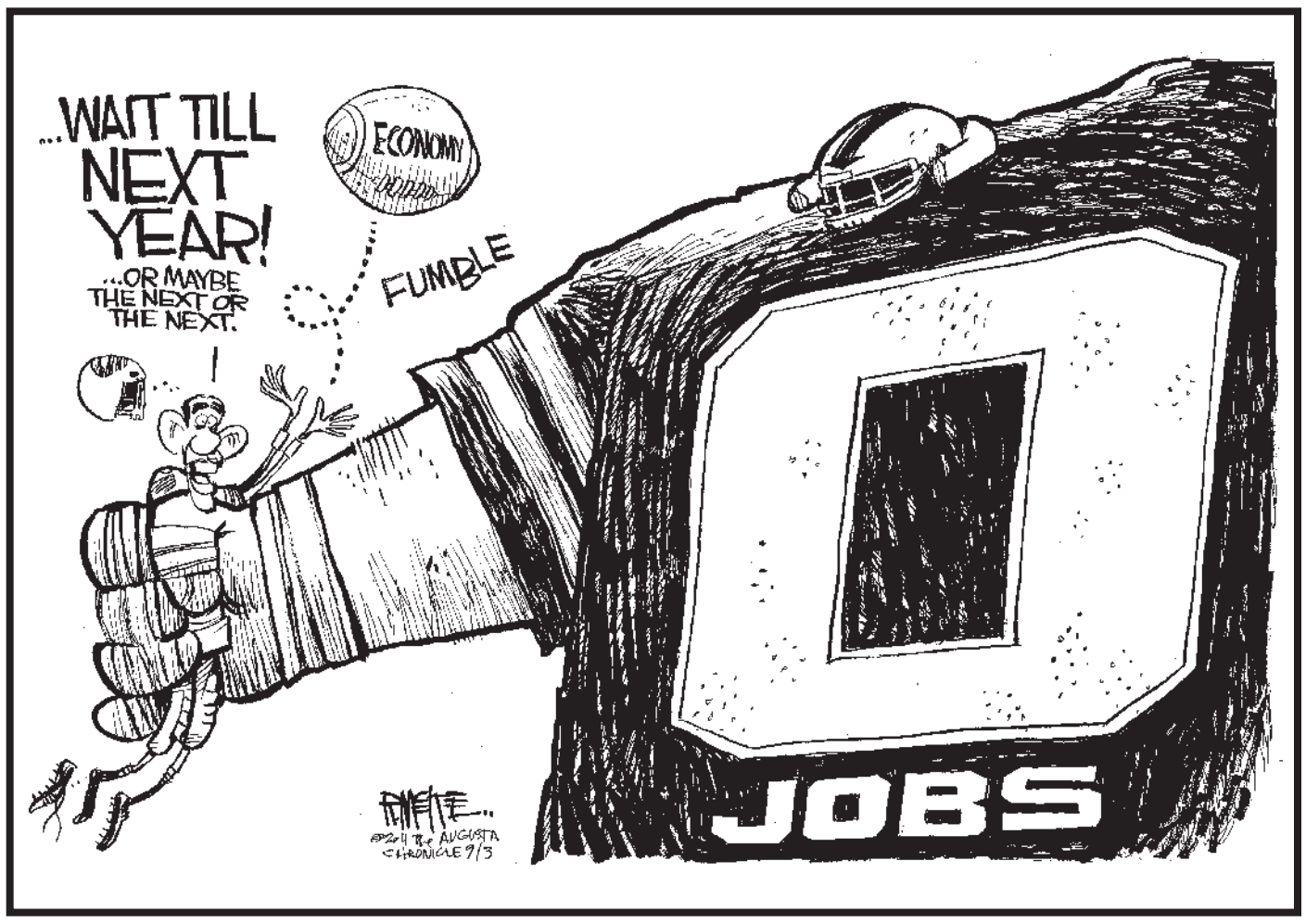

Atlas Mugged: The Ayn Rand Six Step

By JOHN ATCHESON
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: This article was originally published by CommonDreams.org. Reprinted with permission.

Imagine your landlord coming to you one day and saying, "It's everyone for himself. We're not going to supply heat or water or electricity any longer, and we're not going to conduct repairs."

Of course, you and the rest of the tenants wouldn't stand for such a thing. You'd kick him out if you could and move out if you couldn't.

But suppose, over the years, he cuts the part of the portion of your rent that goes to utilities and repair work. Year after year, he'd stop by and announce his cuts with great fanfare, telling you how much money you'll save.

On each visit, as he handed out the meager savings, he'd rail about how the utilities were incompetent, and filled with lazy workers, and that repair and maintenance work was a rip-off perpetrated by equally lazy laborers.

"We're gonna show them," he'd say, "The market will take care of these bozos."

Meanwhile, year after year, you pay a little less. Things might get a little ragged. The maintenance man might not show up every day; the fire alarms might stop working; the elevators get stuck more, there's an occasional power outage, water's a bit murky … but there's those savings.

Unbeknownst to you, most of the money the landlord saves is going to upgrade the top floor where he and his cronies live, bringing in their own dependable power and clean water. But you don't investigate much because … there's those savings.

Every time you passed him in the hall, he'd give you his spiel. "Those repair guys are thieves," he'd tell you, again and again. "And you might as well burn money as give it to the utilities," he'd say with a sage nod of his head. "Just wait 'til those market forces hit, that'll show them." But he'd begin to add a new verse to his rant. "And hey. What about those gays in 3G? Or the Mexicans in 2D? Disgrace how they double up like that …"

Then finally, one year, he announces he can no longer afford to supply heat, electricity or water, and he can't be repairing anything that breaks any longer. "Just not enough money – besides, look what's happening around here … throwing more money at those lazy good-for-nothings is no solution."

Now imagine complaining to him about the frozen pipes, or your child's pneumonia and him responding with: "Hey. It's all about the market – if you want it, figure out a way to get it – the market will provide if you're diligent. Look at the top floor. Besides, it's all the fault of those Mexicans. Or those gays … or …"

Would you believe that crap? Would you put up with it? Of course you wouldn't.

Yet that is precisely the game the Republicans have been playing for years. Call it the Ayan Rand six step. Step one: discredit government. Step two, starve it. Step three, when the underfunded government can't perform, stand back and say "I told you so." Step four, create the myth of the individual uber-alles – the Marlboro man on steroids; Step five, if anyone gets wise, find a scapegoat and blame it on them – gays, immigrants, government workers; government working gay immigrants. Step six, when things get bad, divide and conquer – "if it wasn't' for them…

So now we are waiting for the magic market to deliver us from a crisis caused by the unconstrained market; we are loath to give the government a penny even though no one else is going to do the things it used to do and do well – the things that created the conditions for a broadly shared prosperity and an open, fair, and transparent market. Now, we are on the verge of shivering in the dark, as we point fingers to any of the various scapegoats the Republicans have created.

Now, their plutocratic bosses have free rein, and they're gutting the building as we fight among ourselves.

The solution to bad government is good government, not no government.

The solution to envy and jealousy at public sector employees' pension and benefits is not to strip theirs, but to get ours back.

Our strength comes not from how the strongest or luckiest among us exploit the rest, but from how we come together as a country to do that which we must do together. Indeed, we are great in proportion to how we treat the least fortunate among us, not the most.

The reason it feels like the United States is collapsing around our collective ankles is because it is—if we relinquish all responsibility to "the market" it will strip the walls, tear out the pipes and wires and raise the roof, selling our present and future to make a quick buck. That's what markets are supposed to do.

And if we buy into some uber-individualist fairy tale about survival of the fittest, we'll all be handing over a bigger share of our rapidly diminishing paychecks to the CEOs and CFOs of Goldman Sachs or Exxon and we'll be SOL, as our biggest export will continue to be high wage jobs to China, India, Germany and other countries that haven't bought into the Ayn Rand fantasy – or nightmare.

That's why we need government. Because our freedom and welfare are indeed in danger—but not from government; rather from those who point fingers at government in hopes that you won't notice they're robbing you blind, in the name of a mutant form of free-market economics that's really only existed on the pages of a second rate polemic masquerading as a novel.

John Atcheson's writing has appeared in the New York Times, *the* Washington Post, *the* Baltimore Sun, *the* San Jose Mercury News, *the* Memphis Commercial Appeal*, as well as in several wonk journals. He is currently at work on a fictional Trilogy that centers on climate change. Atcheson's book reviews are featured on Climateprogress.org. Email to: jbatcheson@gmail.com*

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Saipan: The Movie?

By RIK VILLEGAS
Special to the Tribune

Rik coaches businesses through their most challenging transition points to develop consistently profitable businesses that operate without them. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at http://rikv.blogspot.com.

A few months ago, I was asked to become part of a group to develop a vision for Saipan. We decided that it would be difficult to create a shared vision without first defining a shared set of values. The group was a private effort, and we felt it was necessary because of the lack of a cohesive vision from any other government or business entity. I was recently reading that the city of San Marcos, Texas, is conducting their own visioning process to update their 1996 comprehensive plan. The project is being called "Dream San Marcos."

The city is trying to make the most of the opportunities they can see ahead of them, and they've enlisted the community to share their ideas through emails, comment cards, and online software at IdeaScale.com. They also plan to meet with citizens, businesses, students, and civic groups at community events. The purpose is to get the input from as many people in the community. Matthew Lewis, Director of Development Services stated: "We've got questions. Our citizens have the answers."

The community vision will be part of a comprehensive plan, which in turn will help determine infrastructure planning to meet the community's needs and desires. To encourage input, the city staff is posing questions to encourage people to share their ideas and dreams for San Marcos. Some of the questions being posed include: *What do we want San Marcos to be when it "grows up?" What kind of jobs do you think people will want to have in the San Marcos of your dream? What are the five most important things that can contribute to our future quality of life?*

It takes real leadership to not only come up with a truly shared vision for the future, but to also have the drive and determination to make that vision become a reality. A shared vision is essential before a city, organization, or person can really set goals and move in a specific direction because they should know the end before they begin. The vision I'm talking about is not the succinct phrase that's conjured up by a committee and usually offers some platitudinous or generic statement that begins with "we strive to be the best…"

Instead, your vision should be a descriptive word picture that clearly paints a canvas in the mind when heard by employees and all who will take part in the finished creation. This is important because if everyone in the organization is not seeing the exact same vision, then there is little chance that you will see it in the future. The vision may take several pages to articulate and it should include all major areas within the organization, as well as its role in the community.

When you step into the future, you should focus on the "what" and not the "how" because too much focus on the how may hinder or stifle creative expression and dream-sharing. You want to encourage individuals to get out of their comfort zone. Describe what you see and what it will feel like when you realize what it is that you want to realize.

It might help to imagine that you're going to make a movie of your vision project. This will require you to identify the key actors, their roles, who you serve, and how your company will play a major part to transform their lives. You will also need to know the plot, and how the story will unfold as you come to the triumphant end of the movie.

Imagine what will happen when the movie comes to an end and how everyone feels at the climax when you overcome obstacles and achieve your moment of glory. Here are some questions you might want to ask as you construct your movie: What do you see? What do you hear? What are customers saying about you? What comments are employees sharing around the water cooler? What is the community saying about your company? What are the organization's core values, and how have they influenced the decisions that were made?

Once you have the details determined, you can begin to play the movie in your mind. You may want to do some editing as you get further input from others. When it's time to have your premiere showing, you can share your story with others in a way that allows them to upload the film in their mind. Make the movie vivid, in grand colors, with a full symphony playing in the background as you overcome your challenges to move the company to victory. Make it an award-winning production that gets people playing it over in their minds. If it's exciting enough, you'll have a fan base of energized employees and raving customers who will be excited to be a part of the story. All you'll need now is some popcorn. If you can conceive it and believe it; then you will achieve it.

Racial healing needed on 10th anniversary of 9/11

By DEEPA IYER
THE PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

On Sept. 11, I was a 28-year-old attorney working for the Department of Justice. I remember being evacuated from my federal office building that morning, and later heading across the 14th Street Bridge to my home in Arlington, Va. I could hardly believe the sight of the Pentagon building with smoke billowing from it and a large hole in its side.

As I mourned the loss of life on that day and tried to comprehend what had happened, I also began to hear about acts of bias, backlash and violence directed at South Asians, Muslims, Sikhs and Arab-Americans around the country. Overwhelmed with stories from community members experiencing discrimination, I, along with several colleagues at the civil rights division of the Justice Department, began to collect and investigate these incidences.

In every context—the workplace, the schoolyard, the airport and the borders, and even in places of worship—community members reported increased levels of harassment, bullying and surveillance. Many recounted their hesitation to contact law enforcement or government agencies even in the wake of violent crimes for fear of being investigated or detained.

The post-9/11 experiences of South Asians, Muslims, Sikhs and Arab-Americans have been likened to those of Japanese-Americans in internment camps in World War II, of African-Americans who have been racially profiled, and of Latinos who have felt the sting of anti-immigrant sentiment.

Yet, there still remains a perception that the post-9/11 civil rights abuses are part and parcel of living in today's world. Violating the rights of a Muslim passenger at an airport, bullying a Sikh child, monitoring activity at mosques or targeting immigrants from South Asian or Middle Eastern countries for questioning are often seen as the price that some need to pay to preserve the national security of the country as a whole.

But these are exactly the types of situations that demand adherence to the principles on which our country was founded. As Martin Luther King Jr. wisely noted, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

Sadly, 10 years since, our communities are still experiencing a level of xenophobia and racism that is reminiscent of the days and months after Sept. 11. The Park51 interfaith center controversy in Manhattan and the proposed Quran burnings of last summer, the restrictions on mosque constructions from New Jersey to Tennessee to California, the congressional hearings on Muslim-Americans held by Homeland Security Committee Chairman Peter King, R-N.Y., and the inflammatory language used by some elected officials or candidates for political office are fueling negative opinions about Muslims and those who are perceived to be Muslim.

The experiences of Muslim, South Asian and Arab-American communities over the past decade make up the latest chapter of racial injustice in the United States. All of us who are committed to civil and human rights must embrace a vision for racial healing and equity that includes the perspectives and leadership of these communities.

Americans have much to remember and reflect upon as we mark the 10- year anniversary of 9/11, but we also have an opportunity to forge a more inclusive and democratic future for our country.

Deepa Iyer is the executive director of South Asian Americans Leading Together, a national, nonprofit organization based in the Washington, D.C., area. She wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive *magazine.*

Letter to the Editor

A call to override governor's veto

To all senators of the 31st Guam Legislature: Hafa adai. In light of the unfortunate veto of Substitute Bill No. 145-31, a shutdown of our government has become a real possibility. While we believe a shutdown to be unacceptable, the governor has made it clear that there is no compromise. He has offered two options: his way, or the highway. Neither option is good for the people we have been elected to serve.

We are all aware that the governor's original budget submittal contained a borrowing plan based on numbers that were not adequately explained. We are well aware that the $343 million bond borrowing proposal would push the limits of our debt ceiling, in a time of grave uncertainty that we will be provided the federal funding upon which our local government has become highly dependent. As if that isn't enough, the governor's team indicated that part of the proposed borrowing is to pay for obligations that will not be due for another year.

We urge you to consider that Substitute Bill No. 145-31, while providing a more frugal borrowing package, includes mechanisms to pay past due and future tax refunds, to avoid government layoffs, and to keep our government running, without unnecessarily and irresponsibly maxing out our debt limit in such precarious financial times. This borrowing package truly meets the governor halfway, at $180 million, providing for slightly more than half of his request. There is also a $105 million set aside as a provision to pay for upcoming tax refunds. We believe that if the governor is serious about paying for tax refunds, our government will be able to pay for past due refunds, and stay current, resolving this concern by the end of fiscal year 2012.

Also important to consider in light of our financial standing, is that Substitute Bill No. 145-31 contains provisions tied to over $50 million in federal funds that we hope to receive as just a portion of the funding the federal government provides to Guam.

Although the governor has spent a great deal of time expressing concern over the possible effects that the federal cuts will have on the buildup, there has been little concern regarding the trillions of dollars worth of cuts in federal spending that are certain to affect our government operations and services, aside from even the military buildup itself.

Cuts will take place in every department that provides federal dollars for Guam, including Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health & Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing & Urban Development, Interior, Justice, Labor, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Small Business Administration. Even Medicare and Social Security funding will take a hit. How, in good conscience, can this Legislature support a proposal that pushes our island to the limits of our debts while ignoring the uncertainty in our nation's capitol? How can we consider ourselves responsible elected officials if we turn a blind eye to the realities of the fiscal problems that will affect every American in every state and territory? The most sensible option before us is to override the governor's veto and give our government the ability to float a bond without having to raise the debt ceiling, while also limiting our expose to what is happening on a national level. We urge you to join us and support an override of the governor's veto of Substitute Bill No. 145-31. Our government will be frugally funded, our people can keep their jobs, we can pay out tax refunds, and we will be able to move forward without crushing our future generations with an insurmountable burden of debt. Please give our people some measure of hope in these very trying times. Si Yu'os Ma'ase'.

Judith T. Won Pat, *Speaker*
Benjamin J.F. Cruz, *Vice Speaker*
Tina Rose Muna Barnes, *Legislative Secretary*
Rory J. Respicio, *Majority leader and Rules Chair*
Judith P. Guthertz, *DPA Asst. Majority leader and Military Buildup Chair*
Vicente C. Pangelinan, *Appropriations Chair*
Thomas C. Ada, *Public Utilities Chair*
Adolpho B. Palacios, *Judiciary & Public Safety Chair*
31st Guam Legislature, Hagatña, Guam

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°

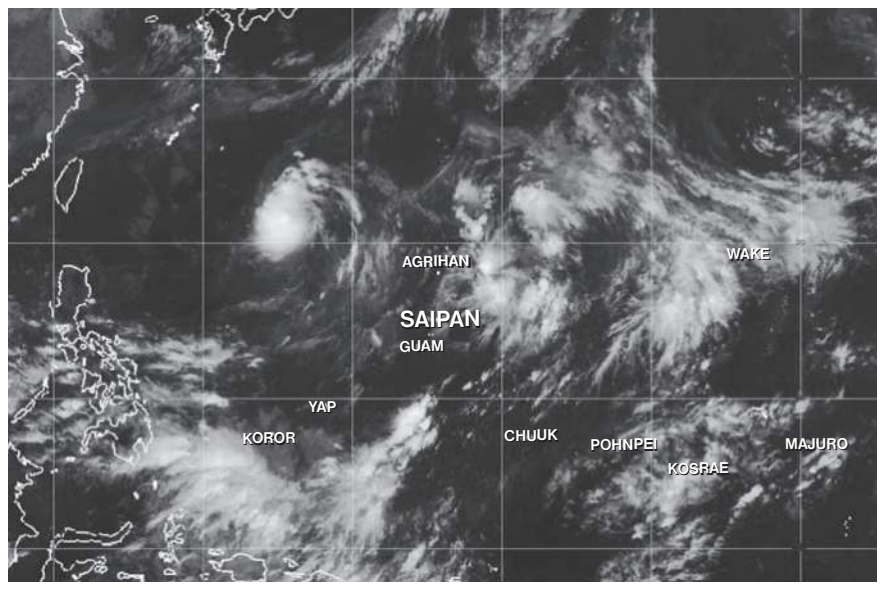
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲82	▼77
Palau	Rain	▲84	▼77
Yap	Rain	▲83	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲82	▼76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲88	▼77
Kosrae	Rain	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Rain	▲86	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲62	▼47
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼82
Honolulu	Sunny	▲87	▼75
London	Showers	▲65	▼60
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲90	▼66
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼79
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲61	▼47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90	▼76
New York	Rain	▲70	▼67
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼73
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼63
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲88	▼66
Salem	Sunny	▲98	▼58
San Francisco	Sunny	▲77	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼68
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼72
Washington, DC	Rain	▲79	▼75

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A developing circulation centered near 22N135E is the subject of a tropical cyclone formation alert by JTWC. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 75 miles of the center further east. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located in convergent winds around a broad weak circulation between 14N and 23N from 149E to 154E and from 23N to 25N from 153E to 158E. Convergent southeast winds and favorable upper-level conditions are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms around Wake Island between 14N and 22N from 160E to 165E and between 18N and 23N from 167E to 173E. Converging southwesterly winds are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southwest of Koror between 2N and 7N from 130E to 137E. A trade-wind trough is found south of the Marianas and stretches from 1N141E to 10N147E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found within 250 miles west of the trough. Another trade-wind trough is helping to generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Kosrae between the equator and 9N from 158E to 167E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:24 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
10:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
6:07 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:34 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:25 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:26 PM	2:17 AM
Friday	4:09 PM	3:11 AM
Saturday	4:49 PM	4:02 AM
Sunday	5:27 PM	4:51 AM
Monday	6:04 PM	5:39 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 24, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
C09314	2:20am	2:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
C09315	4:25am	5:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C09315	4:25am	6:00am	1, 5 via ROP
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K386	5:50pm	6:40pm	4
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
5K212	8:20am	10:55am	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX
0Z604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:05am	8:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:15am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/191	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	9:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/183	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09603/183	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C09603/193	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/179	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
C09315	5:30am	6:00am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
C09314	3:20am	3:55am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
C09314	2:20am	3:55am	1, 5 via ROP
C09316	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
5K387	6:30am	7:20am	3, 4, 7
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
5K213	11:55am	4:25pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:45am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
0Z704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0190/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	3, 6 via GUM
C0192/9596	9:55pm	7:25am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C0184/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C0184/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:25am	5, via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am	1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z724/603	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
0Z750/603	1:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0180/9596	10:30pm	7:25am+1	5 via GUM
C0180/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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Business

Obama to propose $300 billion to jump-start jobs

WASHINGTON (AP)—The economy weak and the public seething, President Barack Obama is expected to propose $300 billion in tax cuts and federal spending Thursday night to get Americans working again. Republicans offered Tuesday to compromise with him on jobs—but also assailed his plans in advance of his prime-time speech.

In effect, Obama will be hitting cleanup on a shortened holiday week, with Republican White House contender Mitt Romney releasing his jobs proposals on Tuesday and front-running Texas Gov. Rick Perry hoping to join his presidential rivals Wednesday evening on a nationally televised debate stage for the first time.

Lawmakers began returning to the Capitol to tackle legislation on jobs and federal deficits in an unforgiving political season spiced by the 2012 presidential campaign.

Adding to the mix: A bipartisan congressional committee is slated to hold its first public meeting on Thursday as it embarks on a quest for deficit cuts of $1.2 trillion or more over a decade. If there is no agreement, automatic spending cuts will take effect, a prospect that lawmakers in both parties have said they would like to avoid.

According to people familiar with the White House deliberations, two of the biggest measures in the president's proposals for 2012 are expected to be a one-year extension of a payroll tax cut for workers and an extension of expiring jobless benefits. Together those two would total about $170 billion.

The people spoke on the condition of anonymity because the plan was still being finalized and some proposals could still be subject to change.

The White House is also considering a tax credit for businesses that hire the unemployed. That could cost about $30 billion. Obama has also called for public works projects, such as school construction. Advocates of that plan have called for spending of $50 billion, but the White House proposal is expected to be smaller.

Obama also is expected to continue for one year a tax break for businesses that allows them to deduct the full value of new equipment. The president and Congress negotiated that provision into law for 2011 last December.

AP

President Barack Obama waves before speaking after the annual Labor Day parade in Detroit, Monday, Sept. 5, 2011.

Though Obama has said he intends to propose long-term deficit reduction measures to cover the up-front costs of his jobs plan, White House spokesman Jay Carney said Obama would not lay out a wholesale deficit reduction plan in his speech.

In a letter to Obama on Tuesday, House Speaker John Boehner and Majority Leader Eric Cantor outlined possible areas for compromise on jobs legislation. Separately, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said last month's unemployment report—it showed a painfully persistent 9.1 percent jobless rate and no net gain of jobs—"should be a wakeup call to every member of Congress."

Whatever the potential for eventual compromise on the issue at the top of the public's agenda, the finger pointing was already under way.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell predicted Obama's Thursday night speech to Congress on jobs legislation would include "more of the same failed approach that's only made things worse over the past few years."

He spoke a few moments after Reid had said that Republicans, rather than working with Democrats to create job-creating legislation, insist on "reckless cuts to hurt our economic recovery."

The Senate returned to Capitol Hill on Tuesday after an August recess. The House comes back Wednesday.

Left largely ignored in the latest political remarks was a remarkable run of late-summer polls that show the country souring on Obama's performance—and on Congress' even more.

A Washington Post-ABC survey released Monday found that 60 percent of those polled expressed disapproval of Obama's handling of the economy. Thirty-four percent said his proposals were making the situation worse and 47 percent said they were having no effect—dismal soundings for a president headed into a re-election campaign.

Yahoo fires Bartz as CEO, names CFO to fill void

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Yahoo Inc. fired Carol Bartz as CEO Tuesday after more than 2 1/2 years of financial lethargy that had convinced investors that she couldn't steer the Internet company to a long-promised turnaround.

Bartz

To fill the void, Yahoo's board named Tim Morse, its chief financial officer, as interim CEO. Bartz lured Morse away from computer chip maker Altera Corp. two years ago to help her cuts costs. Yahoo, based in Sunnyvale, Calif., said it is looking for a permanent replacement.

Yahoo Chairman Roy Bostock, also a target of shareholder frustration, informed Bartz about the move over the phone, according to an e-mail the outgoing CEO sent from her iPad that was obtained by the All Things D technology blog. The blog first reported Bartz's ouster.

A Yahoo spokesman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment late Tuesday.

Macquarie Securities analyst Ben Schachter called the handling of Bartz's departure "unseemly" and interpreted it as a sign of even more drama to come at Yahoo.

In a research note late Tuesday, Schachter predicted there will be a wide range of conjecture about Yahoo's future, with the most likely speculation centering on Yahoo as a takeover target during a vulnerable time.

Alternatively, Yahoo could make a bold move itself by trying to buy the online video site Hulu.com, which is already talking to suitors, or trying to sell its 43 percent stake in the Alibaba Group, one of China's most prized Internet companies. Bartz's tense relationship with Alibaba CEO Jack Ma had fed investor dissatisfaction about her leadership.

In a Tuesday statement, Yahoo said it is undergoing a "comprehensive strategic review" in its latest effort to give investors a reason to buy its stock but didn't offer details.

Bartz, 63, led an austerity campaign helped boost Yahoo's earnings, but the company didn't increase its revenue even as the Internet ad market grew at a rapid clip.

The financial funk, along with recent setbacks in Yahoo's online search partnership with Microsoft Corp. and the Alibaba investment, proved to be Bartz's downfall. Her ouster comes with 16 months left on a four-year contract that she signed in January 2009.

That contract entitles her to severance payments that could be two to three times her annual salary and bonus, along with stock incentives she received during her tenure. Bartz received a $2.2 million bonus to supplement her $1 million salary last year.

Yahoo has now replaced three CEOs in a little over four years. During that time, Yahoo has lost ground in the Internet ad race to online search leader Google Inc. and Facebook even though its website remains among the world's most popular.

Known for her no-nonsense leadership and sometimes gruff language, Bartz arrived at Yahoo as a respected Silicon Valley executive who had won praise for turning around business software maker Autodesk Inc. But she had no previous experience in Internet advertising, the main way Yahoo makes money.

That hole in her resume immediately raised questions whether she was qualified for the job, and those doubts only escalated as Yahoo's revenue continued to sag.

Back to school is a test for teen retailers

NEW YORK (AP)—Teens are heading back to school, but it's the retailers catering to them that are getting the first test.

They're hoping their expanded selections of funky tee shirts and hip-hugging jeans will attract students like Dale Gibson, 15, who struggles to find trendy clothes in their stores. Ditto for Danielle Martinez, 14, who thinks their merchandise is dull. Same goes for Rochelle Wilson, 19, who stopped shopping them altogether.

"All the clothes seem the same," said Wilson, a native of Pembroke Pines, Fla. who prefers shopping at H&M. "There's nothing to make people say, `Oh wow, where did she get that from?'"

The "Big Three" teen merchants Abercrombie & Fitch, Aeropostale and American Eagle once defined fashion for fickle teens. But they lost their mojo by not stocking the jeans and tees that their customers covet. So, teens flocked to chains like H&M and Forever 21 that cater to twenty-somethings with up-to-the minute trendy styles that they can mix and match. Now, as the down economy batters both teens and their parents, teen clothing chains are having mixed success as they try to lure young people back into their stores by offering more of the things they love -- boot cut jeans, fleece bottoms and accessories.

"The teen consumer has always been a fickle consumer and if you're not on trend, you're going to be punished,'" said Michael Appel, an apparel industry consultant and director at AlixPartners. "A lot of teens have all the loyalty of a flea."

AP

In this July 5, 2011 file photo, pedestrians carrying shopping bags make their way along Fifth Avenue in New York.

Teen merchants depend on the back-to-school season, the second-biggest shopping period of the year behind the winter holidays, because during that time they can make up to 25 percent of their annual revenue. This year, the average family is expected to spend about $603.63 during the back-to-school season—which runs from mid-July through mid-September—down slightly from $606.40 last year, according to the National Retail Federation. And spending in teen stores accounts for about 19 percent of the $85.8 billion in annual revenue generated from family's spending on clothes.

But teen clothing sellers, which had routinely posted strong sales gains for a decade or more, have had a tough time since the recession began in 2007. One challenge is that their core customers have been pummeled by the economy: Teens have record high unemployment, about 25 percent compared with the overall unemployment rate roughly at 9 percent. Adding to that, their parents who give them allowance money have been hit with a combination of stagnant wages and higher costs.

Michelle Scott, from New York, says she's cut nearly in half the amount she's spending on school clothes for her 15-year-old twins to $250 apiece this year because her household budget is being stretched. "Rent just went up, the cost of living is different, food went up, clothes went up," she lamented.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
11,139.30	1,165.24	2,473.83
-100.96	0.00	-6.50
-0.90%	0.00%	-0.26%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	0.9439	Hong Kong Dollar	7.794	Philippine Peso	42.2725
British Pound	0.6251	Indian Rupee	46.0475	Singapore Dollar	1.2082
Canadian Dollar	0.9884	Indonesian Rupiah	8565.75	South Korean Won	1071.65
Chinese Yuan	6.3918	Japanese Yen	77.194	Swiss Franc	0.8566
Euro	0.7112	New Zealand Dollar	1.2095	Thailand Baht	29.985

Nation

Gunman kills 4 at NV IHOP, including Guard members

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—A gunman wielding an AK-47 opened fire on a table of uniformed National Guard members at an IHOP restaurant on Tuesday in an outburst of violence that killed five people, wounded seven others and put Nevada's capital city on high alert.

Five Nevada National Guard troops sitting together at the back of the restaurant were shot—three of them fatally. Another woman was also killed, and the gunman, 32-year-old Eduardo Sencion of Carson City, shot himself in the head and died at a hospital. The shooter's motive was unclear, but family members said he had mental issues. He had never been in the military and had no known affiliation with anyone inside the restaurant.

Witnesses and authorities described a frantic scene in the bustling business district, in which the shooter pulled into the large complex of retail stores and shops just before 9 a.m. in a blue minivan with a yellow "Support Our Troops" sticker on the back. He got out and immediately shot a woman near a motorcycle, a witness said.

Ralph Swagler said he grabbed his own weapon, but said it was too late to stop the shooter, who charged into the IHOP through the front doors.

"I wish I had shot at him when he was going in the IHOP," said Swagler, who owns Locals BBQ & Grill. "But when he came at me, when somebody is pointing an automatic weapon at you—you can't believe the firepower, the kind of rounds coming out of that weapon."

The gunman went all the way to the back of the restaurant to the back area and opened fire, Carson City Sheriff Kenny Furlong said.

When he left the restaurant, he stood in the parking lot and shot into the nearby businesses, shattering the windows of a barbecue restaurant and an H&R Block and a casino across the street.

AP

Eduardo Sencion, 32, seen in a photo provided by the Carson City Sheriff's Office, is the suspect in a shooting rampage at an IHOP restaurant in Carson City, Nev., on Tuesday morning, Sept. 6, 2011.

Officers arrived minutes later and found the suspect and the person who was by the motorcycle wounded and lying in the parking lot. The names of the victims, including the three Guard members who were killed, were not immediately released. Sencion left two more guns in the van—a rifle and a pistol, authorities said.

As the attack unfolded, Nevada officials worried about the violence being more widespread. They locked down the state Capitol and Supreme Court buildings for about 40 minutes, and put extra security in place at state and military buildings in northern Nevada.

"There were concerns at the onset, so we took certain steps to ensure we had the capability to embrace an even larger circumstance," Furlong said. "At this point in time it appears to be isolated to this parking lot."

Reno-based FBI special agent Michael West said there was no indication of any terrorist plot.

As police interviewed dozens of witnesses after the shooting and kept the gathering crowd of media at bay, a body lay on the ground, covered with a white sheet except for the feet, clad in tan boots. Sencion was born in Mexico and had a valid U.S. passport. In interviews with investigators after the shooting, his family raised concerns about his mental health, Furlong said. Sencion worked at his family's business in South Lake Tahoe and had no criminal history. The minivan he drove to the shooting was registered to his brother.

The shooting shocked some who knew him, including Joe Laub, his lawyer in a bankruptcy filing in January 2009, who called it an "aberration of his character."

"He's a gentle, kind man who was very helpful to friends and family," Laub told The Associated Press. "I couldn't venture to guess what would cause him to do something as horrible as this."

In the bankruptcy filing, Sencion listed more than $42,000 in outstanding debts for a car, several credit cards and some medical expenses. At the time, Sencion reported having $200 spread over three bank accounts and $923 in disability income, mostly from Social Security.

Texas fires kill 4, destroy more than 1,000 homes

AP

Tammy Heath carries a bucket of water Tuesday, Sept to be used in an attempt to keep fire from jumping a fire break at Henry Knight's home on Cass County Road 1614 near Linden, Texas. Heath, her husband, and son helped keep the fire from destroying the Knights' home and several out buildings.

BASTROP, Texas (AP)—One of the most devastating wildfire outbreaks in Texas history left more than 1,000 homes in ruins Tuesday and stretched the state's firefighting ranks to the limit, confronting Gov. Rick Perry with a major disaster at home just as the GOP presidential contest heats up.

More than 180 fires have erupted in the past week across the rain-starved Lone Star State, and nearly 600 of the homes destroyed since then were lost in one catastrophic blaze in and around Bastrop, near Austin, that raged out of control Tuesday for a third day.

Whipped into an inferno by Tropical Storm Lee's winds over the weekend, the blaze burned more than 45 square miles, forced the evacuation of thousands and killed at least two people, bringing the overall death toll from the outbreak to at least four.

"We lost everything," said Willie Clements, whose two-story colonial home in a housing development near Bastrop was reduced to a heap of metal roofing and ash. A picket fence was melted. Some goats and turkeys survived, but about 20 chickens and ducks were burned to death in a coop that went up in flames.

On Tuesday, Clements and his family took a picture of themselves in front of a windmill adorned with a charred red, white and blue sign that proclaimed, "United We Stand."

"This is the beginning of our new family album," the 51-year-old Clements said.

Perry cut short a presidential campaign trip to South Carolina to deal with the crisis. On Tuesday, he toured a blackened area near Bastrop, which is about 25 miles from Austin.

"Pretty powerful visuals of individuals who lost everything," he said. "The magnitude of these losses are pretty stunning."

The governor would not say whether he would take part in Wednesday evening's Republican presidential debate in California, explaining that he was "substantially more concerned about making sure Texans are being taken care of." But campaign spokesman Mark Miner said in an email later in the day that Perry planned to be there.

Pentagon chief says threat of another 9/11 is very real

NEW YORK (AP)—After a decade of war with al-Qaida the potential for another devastating terrorist assault "remains very real," Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Tuesday following a somber visit to ground zero of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

The Pentagon chief walked through the National September 11 Memorial park and museum with Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and afterward told reporters that Americans must remain vigilant against the threat of another successful al-Qaida attack.

"The potential for that kind of attack remains very real," he said from the 10th floor of 7 World Trade Center, the first completed office tower at the site where hijacked commercial airliners were flown into the Twin Towers, killing more than 2,700 people.

Bad weather forced Panetta to scratch plans to visit Shanksville, Pa., where hijackers flew United Flight 93 into the ground, killing all 40 passengers and crew shortly after the coordinated terrorist attack began in New York.

Noting that many of al-Qaida's top leaders, including Osama bin Laden, have been captured or killed in recent months, Panetta said the nature of the terrorist threat has evolved to the point where al-Qaida "nodes" outside of Afghanistan and Pakistan are now the most dangerous.

"Yemen has risen to the top of the list," he said.

Panetta's New York visit gave him an early glimpse at the memorial, with its majestic 30-foot manmade walls of water that hug the sides of one-acre reflecting pools that encompass the ground where the Twin Towers stood. The water is meant to signify falling tears.

Panetta also took a peek inside the entrance to the museum, which is still under construction. And he was shown the "Survivor Tree," a non-fruit bearing pear tree that was rescued from the World Trade Center grounds after the terrorist attacks. It stands amid the white oaks, near the reflecting pool at the former South Tower.

Dozens of workers scrambled Tuesday morning to put the finishing touches on the memorial, planting ivy as ground cover around the 225 white oak trees that surround the reflecting pools.

The Sept. 11 attacks killed nearly 3,000 people, including 184 at the Pentagon. The names of every person who died in the attacks, including those at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, are inscribed in bronze panels that edge the reflecting pools at the Twin Towers site.

Panetta's spokesman, Doug Wilson, said the Pentagon chief wanted to visit Shanksville and New York to highlight the role the military has played over the past decade in preventing further attacks on the homeland. Accompanying him on his trip Tuesday were five service members—one each from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard.

The visit also recalled the most memorable event of Panetta's tenure as CIA director: the May killing of bin Laden.

Panetta will attend 9/11 memorial events at the Pentagon on Sunday.

ACROSS THE NATION

After bloodshed, some in NYC question parade

NEW YORK (AP)—Some city residents wondered Tuesday if it's time to pull the plug on the gaudy West Indian Day parade, scarred by violence repeatedly in the last few years, after two people were killed in a wild police shootout just blocks from its route. "I was saying to myself a while ago they probably should shut it down," said Winston Thomas, a 66-year-old who moved from Jamaica to Brooklyn, site of the annual Caribbean-themed Labor Day parade, 40 years ago. "If you create this kind of atmosphere where you're killing people all the time, it don't make sense. ... I stay away from it." Mayor Michael Bloomberg blamed illegal handguns for a post-parade exchange Monday night between police and a gunman.

Police: 5 slain in W.Va. before suspect kills self

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP)—Authorities say a man who killed five people near Morgantown and ran down an elderly woman in neighboring Pennsylvania also shot and wounded a gas station attendant as he crossed back through West Virginia. He then took his own life in Kentucky. The path of violence that Shayne Riggleman cut through three states before committing suicide during a police chase was "one of the most heinous crimes I've ever witnessed," State Police Capt. James Merrill said Tuesday.

Immigrant rights group protests NM session

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—Immigrant rights groups chanted "Jesus was an immigrant" under the New Mexico governor's office Tuesday as lawmakers returned to Santa Fe for a special session that may include a proposed repeal of a law that lets illegal immigrants get New Mexico driver's licenses. The El Paso-based Border Network for Human Rights brought a few dozen protesters to the capital, where they planned to lobby lawmakers to reject Gov. Susana Martinez's proposal. Martinez has added the issue, along with a number of others, to the call for a special session on redistricting.

Asia

New ordeal for Indonesian who escaped Saudi sword

TRUNGTUM, Indonesia (AP)—One Indonesian maid is beheaded in Saudi Arabia. For a second one on death row, strangers at home rally to her cause and raise tens of thousands of dollars. She not only escapes the sword, she's now rich. And hated

Darsem binti Dawud Tawar, 22, shot to fame earlier this year in Indonesia after spending more than three years in a Saudi prison accused of killing a man who allegedly tried to rape her. But when the former maid safely returned to her small fishing village, the public tide swiftly turned against her.

She's accused of living in luxury, building a fancy house along the dusty track that passes for Main Street, throwing around cash and draping herself in jewels.

"She acts like a bling-bling celebrity now," said Siti Patonah, a 32-year-old vendor, scrubbing apples and watermelons at a market as five or six housewives gather.

"It's true," one says. "Like a nut that forgot its shell."

The execution in June of a 53-year-old grandmother, Ruyati binti Satubim, sparked mass protests in Indonesia and prompted the government's first effort to do more to protect the 1.2 million women who flock to Saudi Arabia every year to work as domestic help. It recalled its ambassador from Riyadh, and last month barred any further workers from going to the Gulf kingdom.

But Darsem's case has stolen the show, sparking fierce debate in the world's most populous Muslim nation on whether she should donate her windfall. Some Indonesian lawmakers fret that the public may not be as likely to give next time around, even if a life is at stake.

Life's been anything but easy for Darsem.

She dropped out of school before finishing 6th grade and moved to the capital, Jakarta, so she could help support her family.

By 15, she was married and pregnant and months later she went to the Middle East—first Oman, then United Arab Emirates and finally Saudi Arabia—as she'd seen many other young women do before her.

AP

In this photo taken Aug. 24, 2011, Darsem binti Dawud stands with his son in front her new house in Trungtum, West Java's Subang district, Indonesia.

Theirs were the nice concrete houses, standing out among the wooden shacks lit by oil lamps. They had the shiny Yamaha motorcycles, the 21-inch TVs carried through doorways in big, brown cardboard boxes.

She'd heard, but chose to ignore, the stories about maids working abroad—women killed by their bosses, stabbed with scissors or burned with hot irons.

"My husband didn't have a job, my father was getting old, I thought it was our best chance," Darsem says from the living room of her parent's two-room house, aqua-blue paint chipping off the walls.

She refuses to talk about what happened next, saying she wants to put it behind her.

But according to Saudi media reports, Darsem killed her employer's relative—a man who was mentally ill—with a hammer to the head after he attacked her. She then threw his body in an empty water tank and covered it with concrete.

Darsem spent the next 3 1/2 years in a Saudi jail, but it wasn't until the beheading of Ruyati, also accused of murdering an abusive boss, that her luck finally turned.

Newspapers and activists on Facebook and Twitter championed her cause.

The government quickly scraped together the $500,000 demanded by the family of Darsem's victim for her release.

The public also chipped in: Men held out boxes and nets on traffic-clogged streets to collect change from motorists, women went to schools or mosques and—when she finally came home—a TV station handed her $140,000 from its viewers.

That's a fortune in the predominantly Muslim nation of 240 million, where many people make less than $200 a month.

In Trungtum, a struggling, coastal town 110 miles (180 kilometers) from Jakarta, Darsem may as well be a millionaire.

Everyone has a suggestion as to how she should spend the money, she said, and they all have their hands out.

"But why should I give them anything? They did nothing to help my family when I was gone," she says of her neighbors, pointing to the roof above her, badly damaged in a heavy storm and patched together by her father's own hands.

Asked why she doesn't help with legal fees of 23 Indonesians still on death row in Saudi Arabia—the most popular suggestion on Twitter and op-ed pages—the round-faced girl with dark, slow-blinking eyes looks incredulous.

"I didn't even know those women," Darsem says. "There were dozens in my cell all the time. They were always coming and going. But really, who are they to me?"

But despite the rumors, Darsem is hardly living large.

The $10,000 house she's building 50 yards (meters) from her parents' is not much bigger or more extravagant than any of her neighbors' and her future plans are modest: Some land to grow rice. A new, wooden fishing boat for her dad. A sewing machine to open a tailor's shop.

"... A good education for my son," she says.

India, Bangladesh agreed to deeper cooperation

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Bangladesh and India agreed Tuesday to cooperate in trade and to resolve border disputes, but left river water sharing and transit issues for further discussions. The two countries signed a number of agreements, including a protocol to deal with conservation of the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, and its endangered tigers. The two South Asian nations share the Sundarbans.

They also decided to demarcate disputed border areas and increase cooperation in the fields of fisheries and renewable energy.

The agreements came during a meeting of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Singh and Hasina are working to reach agreement on their disputed 2,545-mile (4,096-kilometer) border.

However, a hoped-for deal on sharing water from the River Teesta flowing between their countries was not signed because of last-minute objections from the Indian state of West Bengal.

This is an issue Bangladesh hoped to resolve during Singh's visit.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh asked for delays in dealing with transit questions.

"We want to go slow over the transit issues and take some more time as we need to solve the issue of sharing water of common rivers," a government official with the knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press.

But both the leaders were optimistic as Singh said the issue of common rivers "need not be sources of discord".

"We have decided to continue discussions to reach a mutually acceptable, fair and amicable arrangement for the sharing of the Teesta and Feni river waters," Singh said in his statement after the meeting with Hasina.

Hasina also reciprocated. "During our discussions today we have been able to make considerable progress. I am happy to announce that we have moved closer to resolving long pending issues of common concern," Hasina said in her statement.

Singh is returning a visit by Hasina to India in January last year during which India granted Muslim-majority Bangladesh a $1 billion development loan and raised quotas on imports of textiles.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bombing outside Indian court kills 9, wounds 45

NEW DELHI (AP)—A bomb apparently hidden in a suitcase exploded Wednesday morning outside a crowded gate leading to the High Court in New Delhi, killing nine people and wounding 45 others, officials said. The blast, which erupted shortly after 10 a.m., was the first major terror attack in India since a string of bombs exploded in three busy Mumbai neighborhoods on July 13, killing 20 people. Suspicion for those attacks fell on the shadowy extremist network known as the Indian Mujahedeen, though no one has been arrested.

Strong quake jolts west Indonesia; 3 people killed

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A powerful earthquake jolted western Indonesia early Tuesday, killing three people, damaging buildings and sending panicked residents fleeing from homes, hotels and even a hospital. The magnitude-6.6 quake hit about 1 a.m. (1800 GMT Monday), waking people in towns and villages across Sumatra island's northern tip. It was centered 60 miles (100 kilometers) southwest of the city of Medan and 62 miles (110 kilometers) beneath the earth's crust, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. It was too far inland to generate a tsunami.

Philippines, communist rebels to resume talks

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government and communist rebels say they will meet for a fresh round of talks next month after mediation by Norway removed an obstacle in the negotiations. The rebels refused to meet government negotiators in June until they received assurances that their consultants would be released from detention. The rebels claim they are covered by immunity from prosecution and were arrested illegally. Chief rebel negotiator Luis Jalandoni said Wednesday that both sides agreed to take "positive steps" including efforts to free the detainees during a meeting this week in Manila with Norwegian special envoy Ture Lundh.

Twin suicide bombing in Pakistan kills 19 people

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—A pair of suicide bombers attacked the house of a top military officer in the southwestern city of Quetta on Wednesday, killing his wife and 18 other people, at least eight of them soldiers, authorities said.

Police said they were investigating whether the strike was revenge for the recent arrests of three top al-Qaida suspects in the city, an operation that was assisted by the CIA.

The first attacker detonated his vehicle next to group of Frontier Corps officers close to the residence of the force's deputy chief in the region. Hurling grenades, a second attacker than stormed the house and blew himself up inside it, said police officer Naseer Ahmed Kurd.

SOURCE: ESRI AP

He said at least 19 people were killed and more were wounded.

The arrests of the al-Qaida suspects were disclosed on Monday in an army statement that stressed the level of CIA involvement, a possible sign of an upswing in the two countries' often troubled relationship. American officials praised the operation, saying the detention of the most senior militant—Younis al-Mauritani—was a significant achievement.

The Frontier Corps took part in the operation, the army statement had said .

"This attack was maybe in reaction to the recent arrests, but we are investigating," police officer Hamid Shakil said about Wednesday's blasts.

Islamist militants are seeking to topple Pakistan's Western-allied leaders and take over the country.

Allied to the insurgents fighting U.S. forces across the border in Afghanistan, they have attacked hundreds of government, police, army and civilian targets since 2007 when the violence began in earnest. Many thousands have been killed, and Pakistani authorities have struggled to counter the threat.

World

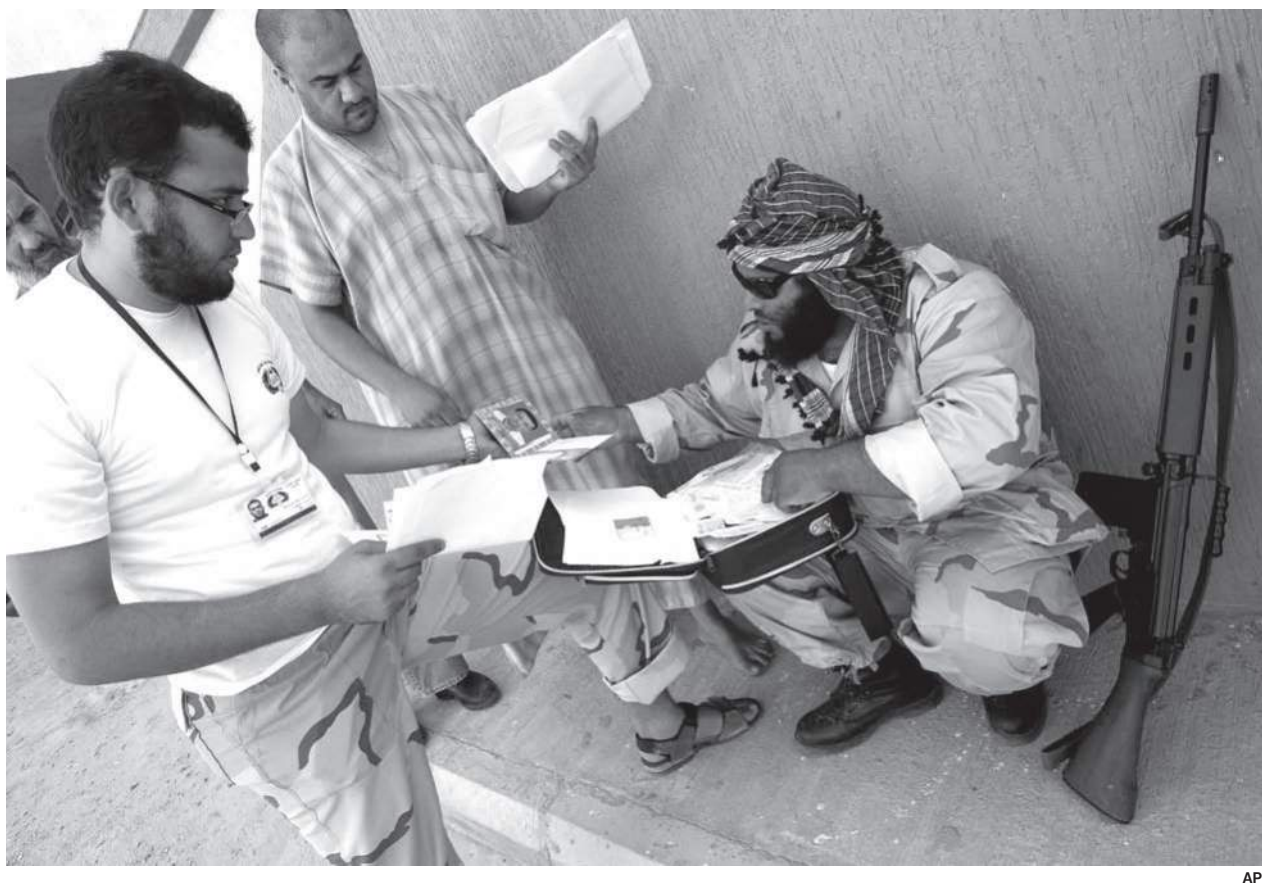
Ex-Libya rebels search homes of Gadhafi loyalists

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Former rebels, weapons drawn, burst into the houses of suspected supporters of Moammar Gadhafi, searching rooms and hauling away military uniforms, a portable safe and documents that appear to link residents to the deposed regime.

The search party leader, a mosque preacher-turned-military chief, insisted only those who fought for Gadhafi—and not his political backers—will be interrogated and possibly punished.

But the raids Tuesday raised concerns about vigilante justice among the former rebels who have taken control of most of Libya during a six-month civil war that brought down the Gadhafi regime.

All those targeted denied links to Gadhafi's army.



AP

Libya rebel local military chief and mosque preacher Sheikh Hussein Furjani, right, checks a bag of documents found in a house of suspected Gadhafi supporter during a raid in Khalet El Furjan district inTripoli, Libya, Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011.

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NIAMEY, Niger (AP)—A spokesman for the president of Niger debunked media reports that a convoy of over 200 military vehicles from Libya had entered his country, saying only three cars had crossed ferrying one senior member of Moammar Gadhafi's entourage.

Massoudou Hassoumi, chief of staff of President Mahamadou Issoufou, told The Associated Press late Tuesday that his government had dispatched a convoy of its own military vehicles to accompany Gadhafi's security chief, Mansour Dao.

Dao crossed the border on Monday and was escorted to Niamey, where Hassoumi says he is being housed in a villa under surveillance.

■ ■ ■ ■

Abdel-Basit Abu Mzirig, an aide to the interim justice ministry, acknowledged that neighborhood councils often carry out raids and arrests on their own, without authorization from a central authority. However, he insisted there's been little abuse, arguing most former rebels are educated civilians "and know how to handle people."

But Moammar Mahmoud, 33, was livid after his house in Tripoli's southeastern Khalet el-Furjani neighborhood was searched Tuesday, saying he felt his rights had been violated. "I am very angry," the former tax inspector said after the raid only turned up a green Gadhafi flag. "Who wouldn't be if people come to your house and search it?"

The former rebels rely on Western support and have come under scrutiny for possible human rights violations since taking control of the capital late last month. They have been criticized for widespread arrests of dark-skinned men, including Libyans and sub-Saharan Africans, on suspicion—often based on little evidence—that they served as Gadhafi mercenaries.

Leaders of the former rebels have said they seek reconciliation with most Gadhafi supporters, eager to avoid the mistakes made in post-war Iraq, where a purge prompted former regime loyalists to take up arms and helped destabilize the country for years.

In Khalet el-Furjani, a neighborhood of about 4,000 people, the undisputed boss is now Hussein Furjani, who temporarily traded his white preacher's robe for military fatigues after rebel fighters rolled into Tripoli on Aug. 21.

Furjani heads the local military committee and operates from his mosque. On Tuesday, he gave orders from an office chair in the mosque courtyard, sporting dark shades and a turban, while cradling a Belgian assault rifle and a walkie-talkie.

The courtyard was crammed with goods he said his men have seized from residents in the past two weeks, including several dozen white Harley-Davidson police motorcycles, living room sets, mattresses, hot water boilers and duffel bags.

Furjani's men run a checkpoint on the main road outside the mosque. Furjani said much of the booty in his courtyard was recovered during car searches, though on Tuesday, no cars were being stopped.

Other items were taken from people's homes, with his men acting on tips from neighbors about where looted goods might be found. Government compounds were targeted by looters, along with the abandoned homes of former Gadhafi supporters who fled Tripoli, he said, adding that he would try to restore the property to its rightful owners once they return.

In the past two weeks, Furjani and his men have searched roughly 30 houses, looking for Gadhafi supporters, their weapons and looted goods, he said.

On Tuesday, he led half a dozen former rebels in two pickup trucks into an alley in the neighborhood, where they searched three houses, weapons drawn.

In the first, they found two cars in the yard. Mohannad Addali, 25, son of the owner, said the cars had been left there by a senior pro-Gadhafi official.

Furjani said the cars would be taken as part of the investigation.

His men also hauled a safe with a government sticker from a storage room, as well as two huge bags of dog food. "We have dogs!" Addali protested.

A pair of handcuffs, a spent explosives shell, a Kalashnikov and ammunition were also seized. Addali said he bought the rifle, denying it was issued to the family by the regime.

However, Furjani's suspicions were not laid to rest and he told Addali he would have to report to Tripoli's central military council for questioning. Furjani said his job was to seize loot and rifles, not to question suspects.

"I will go tomorrow. I have no problem with that," Addali, an oil worker, told a reporter, heatedly denying he or his relatives had been Gadhafi supporters.

The search of the next house, belonging to the tax inspector, yielded only the green flag.

Violence breaks out in pacified Rio slum

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Soldiers patrolling a pacified slum in this seaside Brazilian city that will host the 2016 Olympics have come under gunfire from a neighboring area controlled by drug traffickers, authorities said Tuesday.

There was no confirmation from authorities of deaths or injuries, but a witness in the Alemao complex of slums on Rio de Janeiro's north side told The Associated Press that civilians had been shot.

"We're not certain yet exactly what is going on," Marcus Boucas, a spokesman with the pacification force in the slum, told G1, the website of the Globo television network. "The police and soldiers are here to maintain the security of civilians."

It was just last November that police invaded the Alemao complex of slums in the midst of a week of widespread violence across the city, mayhem blamed on drug gangs.

For decades, Alemao had been key territory for Rio's biggest drug gang, the Red Command, and was thought to be impenetrable.

The taking of the slum was the biggest victory yet for authorities in a policing program that uses elite units to push the gangs out of slums, then installs permanent bases and inserts community police to win over the citizens.

Securing the city was one of the promises officials made in their bid to win the 2016 Olympics. The Alemao complex, which hugs a highway leading to the international airport, is a key area in this effort.

Hundreds of soldiers continue to patrol the Alemao complex and are expected to remain until the middle of next year.

In the past week, there have been clashes between soldiers and those living in the slum, who complain of heavy handed policing tactics.

WORLD BRIEFS

Seismic activity increases at Iceland volcano

REYKJAVIK, Iceland (AP)—A surge of small earthquakes has been reported around Iceland's Katla volcano, but scientists said Tuesday there is no immediate concern that the increased seismic activity will trigger a dangerous eruption. Although earthquakes around Katla are common, an increase in cluster earthquakes is not. "It's one of the most feared volcanos, so we're closely monitoring it," said Pall Einarsson of the University of Iceland. "That said, it's normal for earthquakes to be detected around Katla. What's a bit unusual is that we're seeing swarms of small earthquakes, some occurring every 10 minutes or so."

Police shoot protesters in Congo; 1 dead

KINSHASA, Congo (AP)—Police opened fire Tuesday on opposition protesters and at least one person was killed, officials said of pre-election violence in Congo's capital of Kinshasa. Tuesday's shooting followed what appeared to be tit-for-tat attacks on party offices. The United Nations mission in Congo condemned "the wave of violent incidents ... not only in Kinshasa but across the country."

Mexico says US man smuggled grenade parts

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Police have arrested a U.S. man for smuggling American grenade parts into Mexico for use by the Sinaloa cartel, and a U.S. official said the case has now been included in investigations into flawed law enforcement operations aimed at gun-trafficking networks on the Mexican border. The arrest of a man who Mexican police identified as Jean Baptiste Kingery has provided details on a network that allegedly supplied hundreds of hand grenades to Mexico's powerful Sinaloa cartel. Such grenades have been blamed in the injuries or deaths of dozens of civilians in Mexico, where grenades have been tossed into public squares, streets, bars and nightclubs.

Knox trial: Doubt reigns as experts fight over DNA

PERUGIA, Italy (AP)—Questions have mounted over crucial DNA evidence linking American student Amanda Knox and her co-defendant to the murder of her British roommate, with forensic experts giving detailed and conflicting views in court over genetic science. Knox felt "disoriented" after two days listening to the reports about DNA extraction and attribution, her lawyer said on Tuesday. A prosecution consultant and a lawyer suggested further testing on DNA evidence might be warranted, a step prosecutors might decide to push for as the appeals trial continues. Without a clear motive or convincing witnesses, much of the appeals outcome hinges on how the court views the DNA evidence.

Focus

Promises, promises: America is safer, but not safe enough

By NANCY BENAC
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—We are safer, but not safe enough.

In the decade since the Sept. 11 attacks, the government has taken giant steps to protect the nation from terrorists, spending eye-popping sums to smarten up the federal bureaucracy, hunt down enemies, strengthen airline security, secure U.S. borders, reshape America's image and more. Still, the effort remains a work in progress, and in some cases a work stalled.

Whole alphabets of acronyms have been born and died in pursuit of homeland security, a phrase that wasn't even used much before 9/11.

Hello, TSA, DNI, DHS, NCTC, CVE, NSI and ICE. Goodbye, TTIC, INS and more.

How quaint that travelers used to be asked a few questions about whether they'd packed their own bags. Now, people routinely strip off their belts and shoes, dump their gels in small plastic bags, power up their laptops to prove they aren't bombs and submit to full body scans and pat downs once reserved for suspected criminals.

We have gone from "Let's roll" to "Don't touch my junk."

ON THE NET

Status of the commission's recommendations: http://tinyurl.com/3ovg9br

The bipartisan Sept. 11 Commission in 2004 laid out a 585-page road map to create an America that is "safer, stronger, wiser."

Many of the commission's recommendations are now reality. But in some cases, results haven't lived up to expectations. Other proposals are just that, ideas awaiting action.

"What I've come to appreciate is there's no magic wand on some of these things," says Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, who says that progress overall has been significant.

But remember how some of the police and firefighters who rushed to the twin towers in New York couldn't talk to one other because their radios weren't in sync? There's still no nationwide communications network for disasters, as the commission envisioned, although individual cities have made progress.

It's understandable if you've never heard of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, created to ensure that the government doesn't go overboard with new terrorism-fighting powers bestowed by the Patriot Act and other counterterrorism measures. The board has no members, no staff, no office.

Despite a top-to-bottom reorganization of the country's intelligence superstructure, it's still a challenge for analysts to tease out the critical clues needed to prevent an attack.

On Christmas Day 2009, lots of people in government had information about a Nigerian man whose behavior was raising red flags. But because no one had pieced all the information together, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab managed to stroll on to a plane headed for Detroit with a bomb in his underwear. Only his failure to detonate the explosives properly saved the people on that plane.

Lee Hamilton, a co-chairman of the Sept. 11 commission, says it's probably a combination of hard work and good luck that's kept the U.S. from experiencing another all-out terrorist attack. But he worries that success is breeding complacency.

"The lack of urgency concerns me," Hamilton says. "The likelihood is that sometime in the future, we will be attacked again."

A look at some of the 9/11 commission's recommendations, and the results:

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: Tighter security checks on all airline passengers. The Transportation Security Administration and Congress "must give priority attention to improving the ability of screening checkpoints to detect explosives on passengers."

RESULT: There have been awkward moments as the government searches for a system that will protect passengers without infuriating them: A gravely ill 95-year-old woman had to remove her wet diaper before she could get through security in Florida in June. Video of a 6-year-old girl getting frisked in Louisiana in March went viral. "Don't touch my junk," became a national rallying cry.

The TSA was created soon after the attacks, underscoring the priority placed on securing the sky. Since then, the U.S. has poured $50 billion into aviation security. The commission suggested specific actions for the agency: check travelers against terrorist watch lists and screen every passenger who warrants extra security for explosives. Both are now being done. But airport security procedures continue to evolve as the threat mutates. Those intrusive pat-downs began after Abdulmutallab boarded that flight for Detroit.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "We recommend the establishment of a National Counterterrorism Center. ... The current position of Director of Central Intelligence should be replaced by a National Intelligence Director."

RESULT: The government has turned its intelligence-sharing policies nearly upside down as it tries to make it easier to manage and share all the rushing streams of information that flow through 15 agencies. There's a new National Counterterrorism Center; its mission is to bring together intelligence and analysts from across the government. There's a new director of national intelligence, a distinct agency, to coordinate it all. Overall, the intelligence budget has more than doubled since Sept. 11.

But Hamilton says "it's not clear that the DNI is the driving force for intelligence community integration that the commission envisioned."

AP

In this Aug. 3, 2011 file photo, airline passengers go through the Transportation Security Administration security checkpoint at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta.

The vision of a strong director supreme over all the intelligence agencies has yet to be fully realized in large part because of the way the job is structured, with lots of responsibility but not much authority. In a town where dollars equal clout, the intelligence director has no ability to redirect, cut off or increase spending at the different agencies.

The position, sometimes derided as the "convener-in-chief," is fast becoming one of the most thankless jobs in Washington. Three directors have come and gone since the job was created in 2005. Each was engaged in turf battles with the CIA and the National Security Council.

Retired Adm. Dennis Blair, who held the job from 2009 to 2010, complained in a recent address that the White House had undermined his authority.

"They sided enough with the CIA in ways that were public enough that it undercut my position," Blair said.

Asked with whom the president would side among current officials at the DNI, CIA and Pentagon, Blair said the White House would do the coordinating. He then added, "My experience is that the White House isn't a very good place to coordinate intelligence, much less to integrate it."

The current director, retired three-star Air Force Lt. Gen. James Clapper, is said to be well thought of by the White House, partly because he is openly deferential to the CIA.

After the 9/11 attacks, the government did work to combine its terrorist watchlists. Now even a beat cop in Seattle can check to see if the person pulled over for speeding is a known or suspected terrorist.

There are some worries that all this broad sharing of information has made it too easy for national secrets to leak. Think WikiLeaks.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: Creation of a nationwide radio network to allow different public safety agencies to communicate with one another during disasters. "Congress should support pending legislation which provides for the expedited and increased assignment of radio spectrum for public safety purposes."

RESULT: Still no network, legislation still pending.

As fires raged at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, firefighters, police and other emergency personnel couldn't effectively communicate with one another because of their archaic and incompatible radios.

To fix the problem, the commission recommended creating a network that would allow different public safety agencies to talk to each other during disasters, from forest fires to terrorist attacks.

But lawmakers, public safety officials and telecommunications companies have spent years haggling over the best way to build the system, which would cost billions to construct and operate. Legislation backed by the Obama administration would devote high-quality radio spectrum to a nationwide wireless public safety network, and raise the money to pay for it by auctioning other airwaves to spectrum-hungry wireless companies.

Even if a law is enacted this year, setting up the network would take time. "Congress must not approach this urgent matter at a leisurely pace, because quite literally lives are at stake," Hamilton and commission co-chairman Tom Kean said in a June letter to the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "There should be a board within the executive branch to oversee adherence to the guidelines we recommend and the commitment the government makes to defend our civil liberties."

RESULT: Within weeks of the attacks, President George W. Bush signed the Patriot Act, giving the government powers to search records and conduct roving wiretaps in pursuit of terrorists. That generated worries that personal and civil liberties would be overrun.

The five-person Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board was established and operated for a few years. But since 2008 it has been dormant. President Barack Obama nominated two people to serve, but they have not been confirmed by the Senate.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "Afghanistan must not again become a sanctuary for international crime and terrorism." The commission called for a "long-term commitment to a secure and stable Afghanistan." RESULT: And how: The U.S. commitment has been long term, both in dollars and military might. But Afghanistan is far from secure. Afghan civilian deaths remain alarmingly high. President Hamid Karzai's corruption-riddled government has little power outside of Kabul. As Obama seeks to pull out combat troops over the next three years, the government's hand may weaken further. Al-Qaida, however, has had to relocate much of its operational planning to Pakistan and Yemen, where weak governments leave terrorists an opening.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "The United States should support Pakistan's government in its struggle against extremists with a comprehensive effort that extends from military aid to support for better education, so long as Pakistan's leaders remain willing to make difficult choices of their own."

RESULT: Pakistan has embraced democracy, after years under the military-led regime of Pervez Musharraf. Increased U.S. aid has helped shore up the weak democratic government and deliver some counterterrorism successes.

Yet all of Washington's money and support haven't severed links between militants and Pakistan's army and in-

See AMERICA on Next Page

AMERICA

From Page 17

telligence services. The Taliban can cross into Afghanistan freely to fight U.S. forces, and Pakistanis harbor extremely negative opinions of the U.S.

Relations between U.S. and Pakistani authorities have been consistently difficult. The U.S. discovery and killing of Osama bin Laden in a military town near Pakistan's capital in May only deepened the mutual mistrust and tension. Pakistani officials were furious that the raid was carried out without any warning to authorities in Islamabad, and that has jeopardized cooperation in the fight against al-Qaida. The U.S. has provided about $20 billion in assistance to Pakistan since 9/11, and many Americans are questioning the wisdom of giving more.

The country's direction is very unpredictable.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "The problems in the U.S.-Saudi relationship must be confronted, openly."

RESULT: The Saudi government has fought al-Qaida on its own turf and proved a sturdy ally of the U.S. against Iran, yet has struggled to stem the flow of support for groups hostile to the United States. The two countries also haven't seen eye to eye on the wave of protests in North Africa and the Middle East. The commission's call for a "shared commitment to political and economic reform" is unfulfilled.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: A new approach to the Muslim world, one less tolerant of undemocratic governments. "One of the lessons of the long Cold War was that short-term gains in cooperating with the most repressive and brutal governments were too often outweighed by long-term setbacks for America's stature and interests."

AP

In this July 22, 2004 file photo, a patron of the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Springfield, Ill., reads a copy of the "The 9/11 Commission Report."

RESULT: The Obama administration has seized on the anti-government uprisings of the Arab spring to reposition U.S. foreign policy, moving away from support for strongmen such as Egypt's Hosni Mubarak and more toward democratic reforms and respect for human rights. The administration hopes that new democracies in the region will offer frustrated young men greater dignity and new economic opportunities, leaving them less vulnerable to the appeal of extremism. But efforts to re-establish the U.S. as a moral leader around the globe have been hindered somewhat by the stalled U.S.-led peace effort between Israelis and Palestinians, high civilian death rates in Afghanistan and Obama's failure to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay as he promised.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "The United States should engage other nations in developing a comprehensive coalition strategy against Islamist terrorism."

RESULT: Bush got strong backing from much of the world after 9/11, but that unity splintered when the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003. Still, countries are sharing more intelligence and working together to combat terrorist financing. No government has permitted al-Qaida to operate freely within its borders. Obama's election ushered in a new spirit of cooperation among countries which had often complained of U.S. heavy-handedness and unilateralism under Bush.

■■■

RECOMMENDATION: "Congress should create a single, principal point of oversight and review for homeland security."

RESULT: When the Sept. 11 commission issued its report, 88 congressional committees, subcommittees and caucuses claimed at least some jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security.

The commission called the oversight system splintered, dysfunctional, an impediment to improving national security. It also was keenly aware of how hard it is to pry even one inch of turf away from a power-hungry member of Congress, warning presciently that "few things are more difficult to change in Washington than congressional committee jurisdiction and prerogatives."

By 2011, the number of congressional panels claiming jurisdiction had risen to 108. In 2009 alone, the department calculated it spent a collective 66 work years responding to questions from Congress.

"We are constantly briefing staff, appearing at hearings, preparing reports, responding to inquiries," says Napolitano. "It is a problem." And the problem goes way beyond the hassle of answering to lots of congressional chieftains. Hamilton warns: "When everyone has oversight, nobody has oversight."

Associated Press writers Eileen Sullivan, Alicia A. Caldwell, Richard Lardner, Bradley Klapper and Kimberly Dozier contributed to this report. Benac can be followed at http://twitter.com/nbenac

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†ANTONIO SN. DELOS REYES

October 14, 1938 — September 01, 2011

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents: Pedro Cruz Delos Reyes
Milagros San Nicolas Delos Reyes
Daughter: Milagro Evangelista Delos Reyes
Grandson: Sharold S. Delos Reyes
Brothers and Sisters: Rita Reyes Santos
Andres SN. Reyes
Maria Reyes Lizama
Pedro SN. Reyes
Maria Blas Camacho

His memories forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: AMELIA GALANG DELOS REYES

Children and Families:

Maritoni G. Delos Reyes

Martin E. Delos Reyes and Begonia Reyes (Manuela/ Derek – MM, Mike, Derek Jr.), Edwin, Martin Jr., Estela, Angie, Anastacia and Jesse

Alfredo E. Delos Reyes and Keity Santos (Alfredo/ Alicia – Kona, Jerome and Kiona Joy), (Lorina – Lorenzo, RedJay and Mayson), (Freddy – Crystal – Kaleah and Daryl Jeffery), Tina, Ricky, Losana, Suzie, Shawn, Asunsion, Ioalaina, Mathew and Regina

Maria R. Vongsa (Lynda – James), Dennis, Meling, Peter, Jerry, Trisha, Michelle, Kioni Jeffay and Daniel Jerome

Bernadita E. Reyes

Antonia R. Swims (Lenny, Johnny and David)

Antonio E. Reyes (Anthony, Stacey, Meling, Bridgette and Angel)

David E. Reyes and Remy (David Jr., Marilyn, Christian Dion and Charles)

James E. Reyes (Jamee/ Justin- Jaytin), Jamia, and (James Jr.-Nickolas)

Richard E. Reyes and Elizabeth (Angel)

Ramon Evangelista and Dolores Evangelista (Merosina, Shellysalea, Ramon Jr. and Virgil)

Arlyn G. Manaloto and Felix (Alexis Damelle M. Salundaguit)

Catherine G. Macatlang (Marilet Faye Macatlang)

He will also be missed by: Estela Evangelista Delos Reyes and Jose SN. Delos Reyes

Mass of Intentions are being offered each evening at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm. Followed by Holy Rosary at 7:00pm.

Funeral Services will be held tomorrow, Friday, September 09, 2011. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 a.m. and will be taken to San Vicente Church. Responso Service will be at 8:00 a.m. followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am. Interment service will be at Chalan Kanoa cemetery.

Please join us in Prayers.

Thank you, Si Yuus Maase and Salamat

The Family

Environment

Try Mosquito Dunks to quash emerging mosquitoes

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT
Mosquito Dunks prevent mosquito larvae from hatching and bothering you.

Record-setting rain from storms and flooding from overflowing creeks and rivers can cause another problem: mosquitoes.

"The heavy rainfall and flooding will create lots of standing water where mosquitoes can breed in the next few weeks," said Jonathan Cohen, mosquito control expert and president of Summit, which makes mosquito control products.

"Mosquitoes can breed in a coffee cup of standing water in less than a week."

To eliminate water where female mosquitoes can lay eggs, dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, old tires and other items that can collect water. Turn over wheelbarrows and empty children's wading pools. Clean clogged roof gutters, which can become prime mosquito-breeding pools. Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left outdoors. Periodically empty the saucers under ceramic pots to make sure they are not harboring mosquito larvae.

To keep mosquitoes from breeding in areas of standing water that cannot be drained, such as ditches, ponds, low areas in the landscape and birdbaths, use a natural mosquito larvicide such as Mosquito Dunks. The active ingredient in Mosquito Dunks is called B.t.i. (Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis), a bacterium that naturally kills mosquito larvae but is harmless to other living things. When placed in ponds, ditches, rain gutters, birdbaths and any area where water collects, Mosquito Dunks kills mosquito larvae for up to 30 days. Mosquito Dunks, which are approved for all organic uses, are available in hardware stores, garden centers and home centers.

To reduce the chances of getting mosquito bites, limit your outdoor activities during the times of day when mosquitoes are most active—an hour before and after dawn and an hour before and after dusk.

Also, don't forget that clothing is an excellent barrier between you and a mosquito. Wear clothing that protects more of your body, such as long-sleeved shirts and long pants, especially during the evening hours.

Kathy Van Mullekom is home and gardening columnist and writer of the weekly "Diggin' In" column at the Daily Press *in Newport News, Va.*

Five chemicals to avoid in food

By TERRI BENNETT
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Food manufacturers aren't going to advertise the fact that controversial chemicals are actually in their food. If you want to be informed and eat better, here are five chemicals to avoid in food so you can eat without worry.

1) Sodium Nitrates and Sodium Nitrites

These two similar ingredients are used in many processed meat products (think hot dogs, bacon, and lunch meats) because they act as food preservatives. However, both have been linked to different types of cancer. A better bet is to opt for meats labeled "nitrate-free" or "nitrite-free".

2) Aspartame

This artificial sweetener is found in thousands of diet drinks and foods. While it's been around for decades, it is one of the most controversial ingredients in our food chain. Some research suggests it is actually linked to many medical problems and even weight gain. Check with your doctor about making the switch to a new ingredient available known as Stevia. It's a natural zero-calorie sweetener that comes from the Stevia plant.

3) Certain Food Dyes and Colorings

More and more parents are becoming increasingly concerned because of research that suggests food dyes are linked to hyperactivity in children. Think about all the artificially colored food items on the market such as juices, boxed foods, and bakery items. The safer choice is to avoid foods with numbered dyes on the ingredient list. Also, seek out organic foods, which don't contain synthetic food dyes and colorings.

4) BHA and BHT

Butylated Hydroxyanisole and Butylated Hydrozyttoluene are two similar additives that are common food preservatives. They work by preventing fats and oils from spoiling so you'll see them used in chips, cereals, and even chewing gums. The concern is that they may cause cancer or alter behavior. These additives aren't banned from foods but they do have to be on the label. Also, remember that it's usually 'junk food' that contains BHA or BHT.

5) Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)

While PFOA is not added to our foods, many of our foods are contaminated with it. That's because it's used in food packaging and cookware. This chemical is linked to cancer and once it's in your body, it can stay there for years. PFOA is used in many microwave popcorn bags and certain non-stick cookware. If you want to keep it out of the foods you eat, consider banning microwavable popcorn from your home and using non-toxic cookware such as glass or stainless steel.

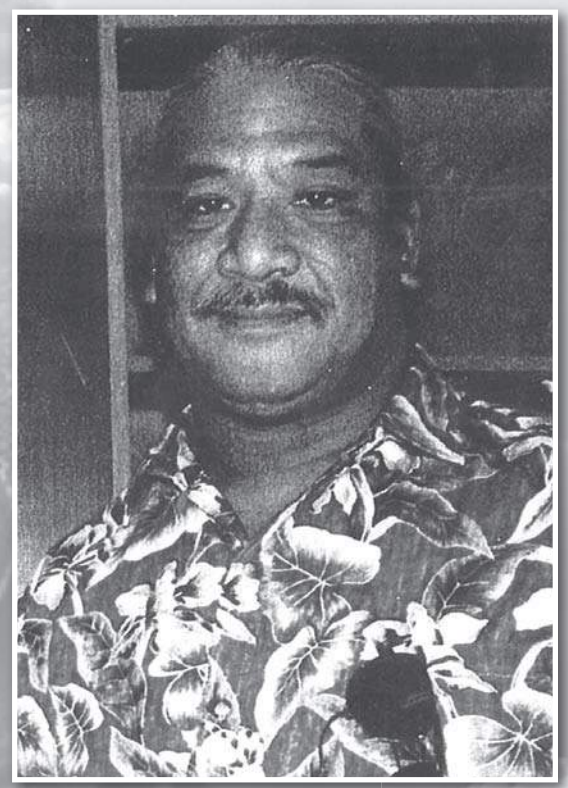
Remember, eating better begins with knowing what you actually eat. Inspecting the ingredient list is always your first line of defense. And, when possible, go the organic route. It's another important way to Do Your Part to eat better while keeping unnecessary sometimes-dangerous chemicals out of our environment.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, syndicated columnist, and host of DoYourPart.com where you can find everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.

Death and Funeral Announcement

Serafin Castro Robert

Lovingly known as "Sam, Fing"
Born – January 22, 1958 Died – September 2, 2011



In his new life, he now joins his:

Father *Lorenzo E. Robert*
Mother: *Nicolasa Manibusan Castro Sablan*
Mother-in-Law: *Rosalia Mafnas Borja*
Father-in-Law: *Francisco Santos Borja*
Son: *Jerome Borja*
Brothers: *Fernando M. Castro, Antonio M. Castro & Augustin Robert*
Sisters: *Abelina C. Sablan, Rosa C. Sablan, Estefania Robert & Martha Robert Rosario*
Brothers-in-Law: *David P. Babauta, Albert M. Cepeda, Bernard Leon Guerrero, Jesus M. Borja & Yuko Rosario*
Sister-in-Law: *Felisa B. Babauta*

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: *Patricia Borja Robert*
Children/Spouse/Grandchildren:
Maria Borja/Donald Pangelinan & Children
Anthony Borja Robert
Lorenza Castro/Nixon Smith & Children
Martina Castro/Jose Jr. & Children
Fernando Robert/Maria Cruz & Children
Lorenzo Robert/Marian Lizama & Children
Francisco Robert/Lorna Tenorio & Children
Nicole Robert/Hans Pua
Reared Son: *Fernando C. Robert Jr.*
Brothers/Sister & In-Laws:
Ramon & Angelica Sablan
Jesus & Annie D. Castro
Eliseo & Patricia T. Castro
Herman & Victorina P. Castro
Augustina C. & Augustin Kaneshi
Ursula Robert
Victoria B. Cepeda
Bernadita B. Leon Guerrero
Maria & Pedro Muna
Luna M. Borja
William & Lourdes Borja
Juan & Melinda Borja
Antonio & Elisa Borja
Jose & Agapitha Borja

He was additionally survived by numerous Godchildren, Nieces, Nephews, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins.

Nightly Rosary is being offered at their residence in upper As Matuis at 8:00pm.

His remains will leave the Commonwealth Health Center on Friday, September 09, 2011 at 3:30pm. He will be escorted to his residence for viewing. On Saturday, September 10, 2011 his remains will leave his residence for Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00am at San Roque Church. Interment services will follow at San Roque Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Patricia B. Robert, Children and Family

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Apollo 18

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday & Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Monday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Tues thru Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Gonzalo López-Gallego, director
Science fiction • Rated PP 13

Synopsis
NASA's cancelled trip to the moon in the 1970s is the basis for this found footage-style picture exploring what if the urban legend were true that the mission actually did occur and the proof of extraterrestrial life exists on film. Wanted's Timur Bekmambetov produces the film, with Spanish director Gonzalo Lopez-Gallego taking on helming duties.

Shark Night 2D

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday & Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Monday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Tues thru Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Sinqua Walls, Chris Carmack
Horror • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Vacationing college students fight a shiver of sharks after traveling to an island getaway and being surrounded by the ferocious man-eaters in this sun-soaked shocker from director David R. Ellis (Final Destination 2, Snakes on a Plane). The moment Sara (Sara Paxton) and her friends arrive at her parent's Louisiana lake house, the party is in full gear. Everyone is swimming in the salt-water lake and having a blast until Malik (Sinqua Walls) loses his arm in what initially appears to be a tragic wake-boarding mishap. Determined to get him to the nearest hospital as quickly as possible, Malik's friends fire up the speedboat and hit the water full throttle. It isn't until they're far from shore that the reality of the situation finally dawns on them—the lake is teeming with hungry sharks, and a tiny speedboat isn't about to stop them from getting their next meal. Suddenly, a severed arm is the least of their worries.

★ ★ ★

Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:40
Saturday & Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:40
Monday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Tues thru Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Guy Pearce, Katie Holmes
Horror • Rated R

Conan The Barbarian

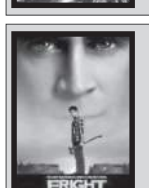
Friday		4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday & Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:45
Monday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Tues thru Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Jason Momoa, Rachel Nichols
Action Fantasy • Rated R

Spy Kids: All The Time In The World

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday & Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Monday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Tues thru Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Jessica Alba, Joel McHale
Spy film, Adventure • Rated PG



Fright Night

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday & Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Monday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Tues thru Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Collin Farrell, Anthon Yelchin
Horror • Rated R

Rise of the Planet of the Apes

Friday		4:20	7:20	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	10:00
Monday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Tues thru Thurs		4:20	7:20	

James Franco, Freida Pinto
Science fiction • Rated PG 13

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Life & Style

Eddie Murphy to host Academy Awards solo

LOS ANGELES (AP)—In the tradition of Bob Hope and Johnny Carson, and later Billy Crystal, Steve Martin and Whoopi Goldberg, Oscar is going back to its comedic roots with Eddie Murphy as host.

The actor and comedian will host the 84th annual Academy Awards, producers Brett Ratner and Don Mischer said Tuesday—and even they were surprised the reclusive star agreed to the gig.

The last comic to host the show alone was Jon Stewart in 2008. A singing, dancing Hugh Jackman took over in 2009, and in recent years, pairs of actors have helmed the show.

This is Murphy's first time hosting the Academy Awards. He said in a statement that he's "enormously honored" to join the ranks of the aforementioned Oscar hosts.

Ratner and Murphy worked together on their latest film, "Tower Heist," and the director casually floated the notion of hosting the Oscars by the star.

"And Eddie said, `Wow, that would be a brilliant idea for you and me to do the Oscars together,'" Ratner recalled.

"I was like, `Are you serious?'" Ratner said in an interview. He called Mischer, his co-producer, who immediately warned him not to get his hopes up.

"I said, `Not a chance,'" the veteran TV director and producer said. "Everybody wants Eddie Murphy. He's a comedic genius, he's a brilliant impersonator. He's just the kind of guy who would make any television show wonderful. So many times through the years I've tried to get Eddie Murphy to agree to come be on a show, and generally he kind of stays to himself and has not been interested in it."

Murphy made a rare TV appearance in April on the inaugural Comedy Awards, which Mischer produced, when the 50-year-old entertainer accepted the Comedy Icon award.

By contrast, when Murphy was nominated for an Oscar for 2006's "Dreamgirls," he did very few interviews and reportedly left the ceremony as soon as his category was announced. (Alan Arkin won for "Little Miss Sunshine.")

"I think that Eddie probably gave this serious consideration because of the experience he did have with Brett (on "Tower Heist)," Mischer said. "When we did decide to ask him, I think Eddie felt secure with Brett."

Ratner called Murphy "one of the greatest and most influential live performers ever" and cited him as an inspiration for his filmmaking career.

"'Rush Hour' exists because of Eddie Murphy," Ratner said. "Chris Tucker was to 12-year-old kids when I was doing `Rush Hour' what Eddie Murphy was to me when I was 12. I have such love and idolize the guy."

AP

In this April 21, 2010 file photo, actor Eddie Murphy attends the premiere of "Shrek Forever After" during the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

Murphy's stint as Oscar host marks a return to the single-host format the show has employed most often over the past two decades. Pairs of actors hosted the two most recent Oscar shows: Anne Hathaway and James Franco helmed the 2011 telecast, and Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin hosted last year.

Mischer said having just one host will help streamline the show, which typically stretches over more than three hours.

He and Ratner were "trying to really keep the show moving briskly and keep pacing up," he said, "and you can really focus on that when you have one host. You don't have dialog with two hosts or more hosts."

The producers said Murphy will likely select a writing team and contribute his own jokes and material to the Oscar show, set for Feb. 26, 2012, at the Kodak Theatre.

Both "Eddie Murphy" and "Academy Awards" were trending topics on Twitter after the announcement was made, and Ratner posted his own tweet saying, "So excited to have Eddie Murphy for the (hash)oscars." But the producer said Murphy doesn't follow social media when it comes to his own projects, including the Oscar show.

"I don't want to cloud my thinking with other people's opinions," he said.

He and Mischer will get down to serious show planning in a few weeks, when Ratner finishes "Tower Heist" and Mischer clears the TV special he's doing for the 10th anniversary of 9/11. But the two producers are already fired up.

"Eddie Murphy is what makes it," Ratner said. "It's surprising even for us. We're sitting here surprised that it's actually happening, that's the exciting part. It's something we can really get excited about."

PJ Harvey wins UK's Mercury Prize for the 2nd time around

LONDON (AP)—Bookmakers' favorite PJ Harvey has become the only artist to win Britain's prestigious Mercury Prize on two separate occasions, beating soul star Adele to the honor thanks to her eighth studio album, "Let England Shake."

Many commentators expected Adele to take home the 20th annual award for Best Album, after she dominated album and single charts across the globe with her sophomore release "21."

However, on Tuesday evening, Harvey was presented with a check for 20,000 pounds ($31,885) by show host Jools Holland and, if previous form is anything to go by, will now enjoy dramatically increased sales of the critically acclaimed "Let England Shake."

Accepting her award in a figure-hugging white dress, the Dorset-born musician recalled winning her first Mercury for album "Stories from the City, Stories from the Sea" a decade ago.

"When I last won, which was 10 years ago on September the 11th 2001. I was in Washington D.C. watching the Pentagon burn from my hotel window, so it's good to be here."

The shortlist, which was initially made up of over 240 albums, was whittled down to 12 in July, before the Chair of Judges Simon Frith and a selected panel of musicians and industry insiders picked their final winner on the night.

"Let England Shake" was recorded in a Dorset church and features three of Harvey's long time collaborators: Mick Harvey, John Parish and Flood, all of whom contribute to a collection of songs that touch upon the futility of war, what it means to be English and British history.

It was released in the U.K. in February 2011 and includes the singles "The Glorious Land" and "The Words that Maketh Murder"—the second of which Harvey performed during the ceremony.

AP

The winner of the prestigious 2011 Mercury Music Prize, PJ Harvey holds the trophy after being awarded the prize in recognition of her album in London, Tuesday Sept. 6, 2011.

"This album took me a long time to write and it was very important to me," said Harvey onstage. "I wanted to make something that was meaningful not just for myself, but for other people and hopefully to make something that will last."

The Barclaycard Mercury Prize celebrates the last year in U.K. music, providing a snapshot of the British scene across numerous disparate genres.

The event has been held annually since 1992, when Scottish rockers Primal Scream took home the inaugural award for "Screamadelica." Previous winners also include Pulp ("Different Class") in 1996, Dizzee Rascal ("Boy in da Corner") in 2003 and Arctic Monkeys ("Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not") in 2006.

This year's nominee list in full: Adele—21; Anna Calvi—Anna Calvi; Elbow—Build A Rocket Boys!; Everything Everything—Man Alive; Ghostpoet—Peanut Butter Blues and Melancholy; Jam Gwilym Simcock—Good Days At Schloss Elmau; James Blake—James Blake; Katy B—On A Mission; King Creosote & Jon Hopkins—Diamond Mine; Metronomy—The English Riviera; PJ Harvey—Let England Shake; Tinie Tempah—Disc-Overy.

ABC names Ben Flajnik as next 'Bachelor'

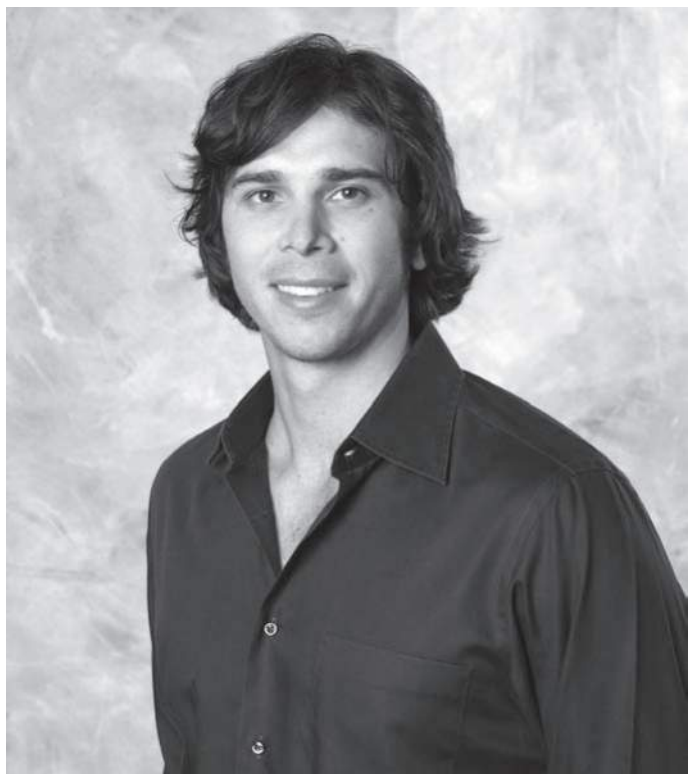
NEW YORK (AP)—Ben Flajnik, who proposed to Ashley Hebert and was rejected on ABC's "The Bachelorette," is getting another chance at finding love on camera.

The network confirms it has tapped the 28-year-old northern California winemaker to star in the next season of "The Bachelor."

The show will return in January for its 16th season.

On "The Bachelor," single women live in a house together and compete for the affection of a single man. So far, no bachelor has gone on to marry the woman he picked while on the show.

Hebert is now engaged to J.P. Rosenbaum. She chose him in the season finale of "The Bachelorette."



AP

In this undated image released by ABC, former contestant on the romance reality series "The Bachelorette," Ben Flajnik is shown.

John Walsh to bring 'Most Wanted' to Lifetime

NEW YORK (AP)—Just weeks after Fox dropped "America's Most Wanted" after more than two decades, its creator-host, John Walsh, has a new home for the show on the Lifetime network.

The deal, announced jointly on Tuesday by Walsh and Lifetime, will return to the air Walsh's weekly criminal roundup, which since 1988 has helped bring almost 1,200 fugitives to justice.

The series will return for its 25th season later this year.

"'America's Most Wanted' is a seminal program that provides a very valuable service to both viewers and law enforcement agencies," said Lifetime president Nancy Dubuc. "For more than two decades John Walsh has been leading the fight against crime and it's an honor to partner with him on bringing back this important show."

"We've often been called the court of last resort," Walsh said. "Now we are back in the game and ready to saddle up for another season to get justice for victims and put dangerous criminals behind bars."

In May, Fox announced it was axing "AMW," citing high production costs. At the time the network said it would present four quarterly specials in the coming season. The first of those specials will air in October, and Fox will follow it with the remaining three, Walsh said.

But Fox's final weekly "AMW" was telecast in June.

"We kept the hotline and website up, and we've caught four guys," Walsh said. "The viewers didn't give up on us."

Since then, Walsh had been in talks to find a new network. The deal with Lifetime was completed Tuesday afternoon, he said.

It was in 1981 that Walsh launched his crime-busting crusade in the aftermath of the abduction and murder of his 6-year-old son Adam. He became an outspoken advocate for tougher laws against sex offenders, more cooperation among law enforcement agencies, and citizen involvement in flushing out fugitives.

Lil Wayne's new CD sells 964,000 units in 1st week

NEW YORK (AP)—It wasn't quite "A Milli" but it was awful close: Lil Wayne's "Tha Carter IV" sold 964,000 in its debut week for the second-best first-week sales of the year.

The figures were released by Nielsen SoundScan on Tuesday.

Only Lady Gaga sold more this year. Her "Born This Way" hit No. 1 with 1.1 million sold thanks in part to a one-day offer from Amazon.com to buy the album for 99 cents.

Lil Wayne just barely missed his own sales record. "Tha Carter III" sold just over 1 million when it was released in 2008.

Lil Wayne made "Tha Carter IV" available for digital download immediately after an appearance on the MTV Video Music Awards and released a physical CD two days later.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

John Wayne memorabilia to go up for auction

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Cowboy hats, costumes and saddles from John Wayne's estate are among the items that will go up for auction in Los Angeles next month. Heritage Auctions spokesman Donn Pearlman on Tuesday said the auction will include more than 700 personal and professional items, including an eye patch Wayne wore in his Golden Globe-winning performance in "True Grit." The auction will take place Oct. 6 and Oct. 7 at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles. Public exhibitions are planned in Dallas and New York later this month.

Judge: Jackson trial 'on course' despite appeal

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge says the trial of the doctor charged in Michael Jackson's death is "on course" despite an appeal filed last week by the physician's attorneys. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor says jury selection in the case will begin as planned on Thursday unless the appeals court issues a stay in the case. Attorneys for Dr. Conrad Murray on Friday appealed a ruling by Pastor that jurors in the upcoming involuntary manslaughter trial will not be sequestered. Pastor says he's confident justices on the 2nd District Court of Appeal will provide some guidance soon. Murray pleaded not guilty and faces up to four years in prison if convicted.

Kutcher, Vergara, Arnett among Emmy presenters

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Some of TV's top stars aren't just nominated for Emmy Awards; they're going to help present them. The television academy says Emmy nominees Amy Poehler, Will Arnett, Sofia Vergara and Julianna Margulies will help hand out awards at the Sept. 18 ceremony. Poehler is a double nominee, as lead actress and producer of the comedy series "Parks and Recreation." Her husband, Arnett, is up for guest actor in a comedy for "30 Rock." Vergara is nominated for supporting actress in a comedy for "Modern Family," and Margulies is up again for an award she won last year: Lead actress in a drama series for "The Good Wife." New "Two and a Half Men" star Ashton Kutcher and Zooey Deschanel, star of the new series "New Girl," will also present Emmys.

Phish plans concert to help Vt. flood victims

ESSEX JUNCTION, Vt. (AP)—The jam band Phish is returning to its home state of Vermont to help the victims of Tropical Storm Irene with a benefit concert. Phish will play on Sept. 14 at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction, its first Vermont show in seven years. The Burlington Free Press reports that tickets go on sale Saturday. In a statement issued Tuesday, Phish keyboardist Page McConnell says: "It's been heartbreaking to see all the loss and destruction that came from the storm." McConnell also says he hopes the money raised from the concert will make a difference in the recovery and rebuilding effort.

Benefit concert raises more than $1M for Minot

MINOT, N.D. (AP)—Preliminary figures show a concert featuring The Black Eyed Peas as the headliner raised at least $1.3 million to help with flood recovery efforts in the North Dakota town of Minot. Minot Area Community Foundation president Ken Kitzman said in a news release that Saturday night's initial count of 15,800 people in attendance at the benefit concert breaks a previous record set for a KISS concert in 2010. Kitzman said concert officials are still adding up donations, but at least $1.3 million has been raised so far. Hollywood actor and Minot native Josh Duhamel spoke at the concert, which also featured Minneapolis-based rockers Charlz Newman. Duhamel is married to Black Eyed Peas singer Fergie.

Issues of identity are serious matter for adoptees, families

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: May I weigh in on the letter from "Noah's Real Dad in New York" (June 27), whose adult adopted son wants to reclaim his original last name? I am an adult adoptee who searched for and found my birth family. I also joined a support group that was formed to support the adoption triad.

Research has shown that male adoptees struggle with their identity more than females do. After all, in our patriarchal society it is the male surname that most often does not get changed in marriage. Women are accustomed to the fact that they will most likely change their name.

This family needs to do some reading on the subject. There are many resources out there. A family counselor who isn't well-educated about adoption issues will not be helpful.

Unless you walk in an adoptee's shoes you cannot judge their actions. After all, the adoption decision is made without the consent of the child. We also resent being treated like children after we are adults. Noah is a 34-year-old adult able to make his own choices and decisions.

Noah is fortunate that he knows his birth father and didn't have to search a bureaucratic maze to obtain any information. Laws have been passed in several, not all, states allowing adoptees to get important information about their birth families that is necessary for taking care of ourselves and our own children.

DEBBIE IN FLORIDA

DEAR DEBBIE: Your letter reflects the strong sentiments of many adoptees and their families who wrote to me expressing their disappointment in my reply to Noah's adoptive father. Here are some of their responses:

DEAR ABBY: I am an adoptive parent in an open adoption with our children's birth families, and I vehemently disagree with what you wrote.

My children have two mothers and two fathers. My husband and I are the parents who are raising them, but that slip of paper signed by a judge does not erase their family of origin. It shouldn't. They have an adoptive family and a biological one and should be able to have a relationship with both.

My children also have two names. The names they were given at birth and the names my husband and I gave them when we adopted them as infants. They will always know about these two sets of names. When they are older, if they wish to be called by their birth name, we will have to respect that. It does not mean they love us less or that we are not their parents.

What it DOES mean is that adoption is more complicated than most people realize, and as our children grow into adults, we need to give them the space and freedom to discover for themselves who they are.

AN ADOPTIVE MOTHER IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ABBY: I agree with you 100 percent! How horrible, disrespectful and mean-spirited of that 34-year-old son. I understand why he is interested in the family history of his biological father, but he could record that history for the future without changing his current surname. Doesn't Noah realize his biological father was an adult who made up his mind to give up his rights to his son, including the rights to his last name? If Noah doesn't respect his adoptive father for giving him his last name, and if Noah is set on changing his surname, it would be more respectful to take his mother's maiden name as his surname. I hope Noah reconsiders the issue he's creating, and at 34 he makes a wiser adult decision than his biological parent did.

PHYLLIS IN OHIO

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

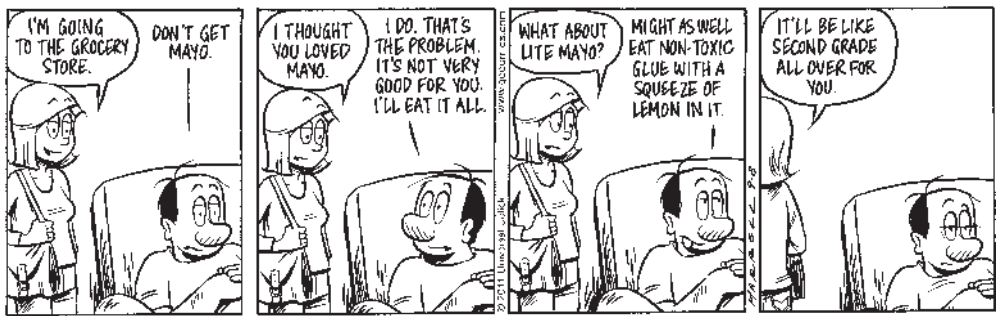
BANG! YOU'RE DEAD!
NO I'M NOT, YOU MISSED!
I DID NOT! YOU CHEATER!
I'M HERE TALKING TO YOU, AREN'T I?
OK, THEN.. BANG!
MY, WHAT A MISERABLE SHOT YOU ARE!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

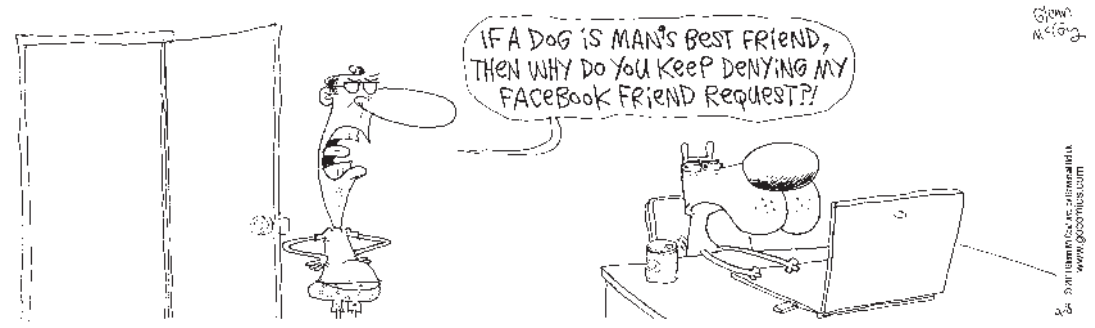
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I'M GOING TO THE GROCERY STORE.
DON'T GET MAYO.
I THOUGHT YOU LOVED MAYO.
I DO. THAT'S THE PROBLEM. IT'S NOT VERY GOOD FOR YOU. I'LL EAT IT ALL.
WHAT ABOUT LITE MAYO?
MIGHT AS WELL EAT NON-TOXIC GLUE WITH A SQUEEZE OF LEMON IN IT.
IT'LL BE LIKE SECOND GRADE ALL OVER FOR YOU.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Money
5 Here (Fr.)
8 Off-key
12 Minstrel's instrument
13 — sequitur
14 Regarding
15 Met melody
16 Moment
17 Slave to crosswords?
18 Mimicry expert
20 "The Maltese Falcon" director
22 Enjoy Aspen
23 Sch. org.
24 — accompli
27 Pest
32 Possess
33 Larry King's former employer
34 Western st.
35 Paraphrases
38 Big rig
39 Levy
40 Pull along
42 Iced dessert
45 Rhododendron's kin
49 Hebrew month
50 "2001" computer
52 Snitched
53 "The Amazing —"
54 Under the weather
55 Maintain
56 Picnic invaders
57 One of the family
58 Squeezes (out)

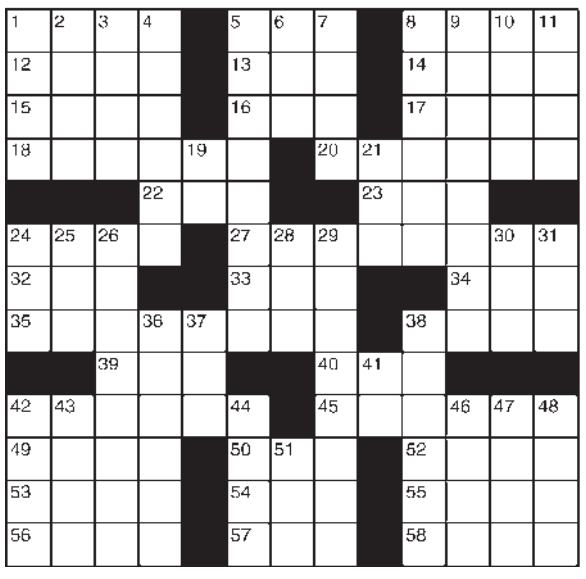
DOWN

1 Applaud
2 Emanation
3 Use a teaspoon
4 San Simeon publisher
5 Natural aptitude
6 Miler Sebastian
7 Foot fraction
8 Cinco de Mayo party
9 Case
10 Italian river
11 Adolescent
19 Suitable
21 High points
24 Supporting
25 Shock and —
26 Teach
28 French article
29 Sets up for use, as software
30 Rotating part
31 Inventor Whitney
36 Restaurant furniture
37 Hatchet
38 Wrap
41 Wizard's place
42 Antitoxins
43 "The Good Earth" heroine
44 Anything but that
46 Glimpse
47 Model Macpherson
48 Tosses in
51 Will Smith biopic

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	A	K	E	■	J	A	W	■	A	G	E	S
A	L	A	N	■	E	C	O	■	V	A	L	E
G	A	N	G	S	T	E	R	■	I	N	M	E
S	W	E	A	T	■	■	D	R	A	G	O	N
■	■	■	G	U	R	U	■	E	N	L	■	■
I	U	G	E	■	O	N	C	E	■	I	M	P
U	S	A	■	C	O	D	A	S	■	E	A	U
B	E	N	■	E	K	E	S	■	F	R	O	G
■	■	G	A	S	■	R	E	E	L	■	■	■
C	A	L	L	T	O	■	■	G	O	N	N	A
O	L	I	O	■	G	A	N	G	W	A	Y	S
N	O	O	N	■	R	I	O	■	E	P	E	E
G	E	N	E	■	E	L	M	■	R	A	T	A

Yesterday's answer 9-8



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Pink, 32; David Arquette, 40; Brooke Burke, 40; Neko Case, 41.

Happy Birthday: Keep things simple. Do with less and you will discover you don't need all the extras to survive. Running a tight household will impress the people you encounter. An opportunity to get to know someone better will lead to a proposal that you cannot refuse. Unexpected changes will work in your favor and help you accomplish some of your longtime goals. Your numbers are 5, 13, 16, 27, 34, 36, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You don't have to make a big splash. Tone down and let your creativity lead you to victory. Moderate plans will have a far greater effect on the people you are trying to impress. Participation is good, but there is a limit to what you should offer. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): As long as you shelve your emotions, you will do fine. Hit your target with facts and figures that demonstrate how practical and capable you are. Thoughts must be followed by actions, and your actions must reflect your ideas and plans, not someone else's. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Personal problems will develop if you socialize with people who are clingy. You need to explore new possibilities and places. Put your priorities in order and question what's going on around you. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Do what you can to help others, and you will get help in return. The little changes you make will be noticed the most. Add the small touches at home that make you feel more comfortable. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Expand your relationships with colleagues, peers and people who share your skills and interests and you will find opportunity. Don't offer anything that you will not be able to provide easily. Favors will be called in as quickly as you offer them. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): An unusual turn of events will lead to something satisfying and adventuresome. You will learn from the experiences you have, as well as from the people with whom you converse. A trip will bring you in contact with someone who interests you personally. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You will make mistakes, but you will also discover valuable information in the process. Don't let anger take over or you may miss the point. Focus on the positive and what you can acquire by following the rules. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You will have difficulty getting through to people who have an agenda that differs from yours. Follow your own path and don't worry what others do. You may be led astray by someone who wants to control you. Don't be fooled by a fast-talking braggart. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Someone who doesn't trust you will be watching closely. Consistency will be necessary, along with follow-through. Confusion while traveling or conversing with someone you love will cause stress. You need to make a couple of personal changes to move forward. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Check the track record of any investment or any individual with whom you are considering working for financial gains. It is best to focus more on your own skills or assets. Being responsible for someone else will lead to limitations. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Review all information before moving forward. Good fortune can be yours, but only if you put in the time and effort instead of relying on others. Emotional matters must be dealt with quickly, but you mustn't make an impulsive decision. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Make time to network with people who can help you build a following in your chosen industry. Getting ahead will be all about how you position yourself. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, witty, unusual and strong-willed.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5		3		2			
								2
		2		9		6		
2			9		8			6
		7				2		
4			6		5			1
		6		3		4		
8								
			7		1		8	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	3	6	2	9	1	5	8	4
8	1	5	6	4	3	2	7	9
2	4	9	5	8	7	6	3	1
3	5	1	4	7	9	8	2	6
9	2	4	8	6	5	3	1	7
6	8	7	1	3	2	9	4	5
4	7	3	9	2	6	1	5	8
5	6	2	7	1	8	4	9	3
1	9	8	3	5	4	7	6	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/07

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ABS WORKOUTS — Solution: 8 letters

T	S	T	E	S	N	O	I	T	A	T	O	R	R	M
T	H	S	E	O	T	G	N	I	N	N	I	G	E	B
O	A	G	N	N	Y	M	Y	D	O	B	N	D	V	A
S	S	E	I	R	O	L	A	C	C	I	I	L	E	L
R	T	A	P	T	B	A	K	A	N	C	F	O	R	A
O	R	W	S	E	U	C	G	E	I	L	H	W	S	N
T	P	I	P	D	R	E	H	N	E	S	T	E	E	C
M	L	S	A	I	N	T	E	X	E	W	L	R	S	E
U	A	T	T	S	G	B	I	C	Y	C	Ⓛ	E	I	T
S	N	I	R	N	A	B	N	T	N	G	A	Ⓔ	E	M
C	K	I	E	L	I	A	F	B	A	N	D	G	Ⓐ	H
L	S	R	L	L	V	I	P	O	S	I	T	I	O	Ⓝ
E	T	R	I	D	L	I	U	B	O	O	S	T	E	Y
S	U	T	A	L	T	E	R	N	A	T	I	N	G	T
C	Y	L	I	A	D	E	X	A	L	E	R	O	L	L

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Advance, Alternating, Balance, Band, Beginning, Bicycle, Body, Boost, Build, Burn, Calm, Calories, Chest, Curl, Daily, Diet, Flexibility, Heels, Lean, Lift, Lower, Medicine Ball, Muscles, Planks, Position, Relaxed, Repeat, Reverse, Rib Cage, Rise, Roll, Rotations, Sets, Side, Spine, Strengthening, Taps, Tight, Toes, Torso, Train, Trim, Weekly, Yoga

Yesterday's Answer: Flames

SALE: The locale of "Wonderword" is for fun! Appeal to your heartstrings but the puzzle is free, by mail we will have to charge for it. Wonderword Home limited time, the puzzle is offered for $1.95 each U.S. funds only payable to Universal Uclick. Include $2 postage for the first book and $1.95 for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Main St., Kansas City, MO 64105 or call toll-free, 1-800-572-4850

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Saipan Tribune

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

LEV ATE IT

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Find today's solution in this section

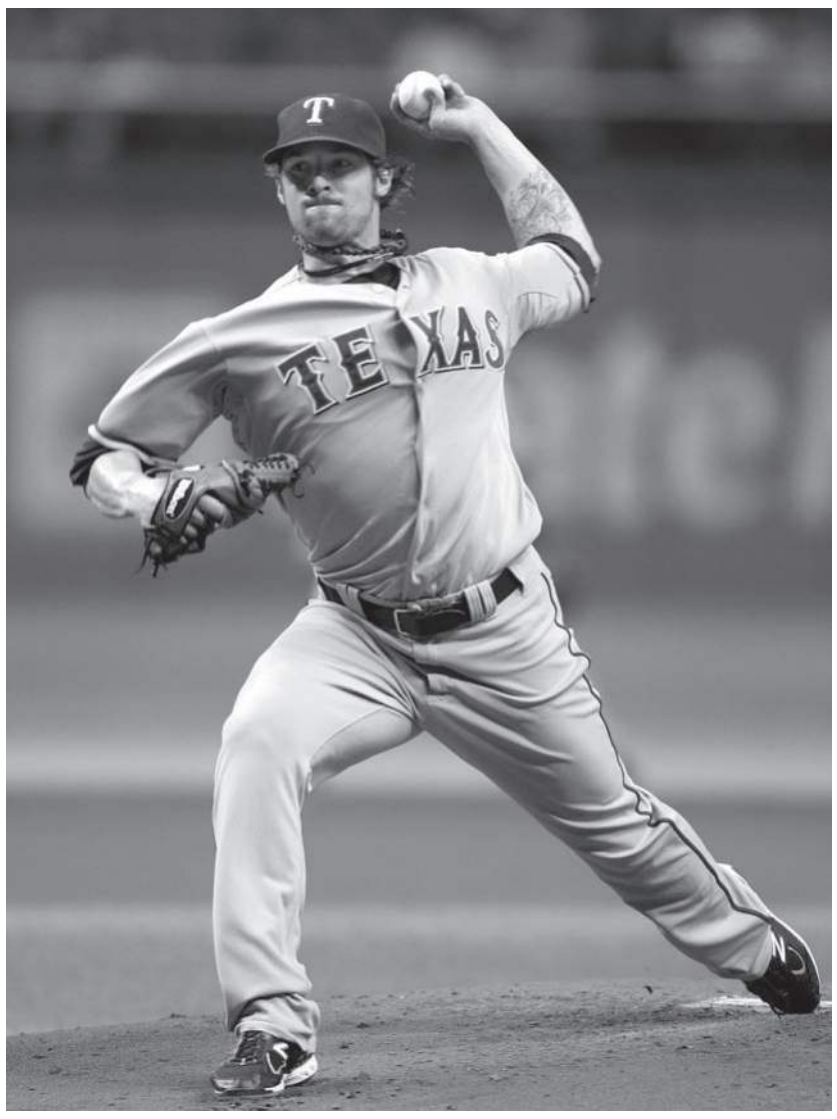
Wilson shutout as Rangers beat Rays

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP)—Texas'C.J. Wilson pitched a shutout to steer the American League West-leading Rangers to an 8-0 win over the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday.

Wilson (15-6) became the first Texas left-hander to record 15 or more wins in consecutive seasons. He has three complete games this year.

David Murphy drove in four runs for the Rangers and hit a homer, as did Ian Kinsler. Adrian Beltre extended his hitting streak to 12 games with a third-inning single.

Tampa Bay starter Jeff Niemann (9-7) gave up seven runs in 4 2-3 innings.



AP

Texas Rangers starting pitcher C.J. Wilson delivers to the Tampa Bay Rays during the second inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Red Sox 14, Blue Jays 0

In Toronto, Jon Lester struck out 11 in seven innings to win his fourth straight decision, steering Boston to a huge win over Toronto.

Lester (15-6) did not allow any extra-base hits, and walked only one to improve to 4-0 with a 1.16 ERA in his past five starts. He also matched a season high for strikeouts and is 4-0 in his past six starts against Toronto.

Marco Scutaro and David Ortiz each matched a career-high with four hits while Jarrod Saltalamacchia and Josh Reddick homered as the Red Sox equalled a season-high with 20 hits.

Blue Jays starter Luis Perez (3-3) allowed a career-worst eight runs in 2 2-3 innings.

Tigers 10, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Detroit opened its lead over Cleveland in the AL Central to 8-1/2 games.

Victor Martinez drove in three runs for the Tigers, who have won five straight overall and six in a row against the Indians.

Detroit starter Rick Porcello (13-8) was staked to an 8-0 lead after the top of the second inning as the Tigers knocked around Indians starter Fausto Carmona (6-14). Porcello gave up one run over 6 1-3 innings.

Yankees 5, Orioles 3

In New York, the hosts had to wait until 2.15 a.m., in front of only about 500 die-hard or insomniac fans, to complete their win over Baltimore.

The game did not begin until 11:08 p.m. due to a rain delay of 4 hours, 3 minutes.

Francisco Cervelli hit a tiebreaking home run in the seventh inning off Tommy Hunter (3-3). Two fans reached near the left-field wall to grab it, and even though Orioles manager Buck Showalter argued, the umpires upheld their original home-run call after a video replay.

Brett Gardner followed with a home run, and the AL East-leading Yankees won their sixth in a row. Cory Wade (4-0) won in relief.

Mariners 2, Angels 1

In Anaheim, Felix Hernandez won at Angel Stadium for the first time since 2006, as Seattle snapped a five-game skid with victory over Los Angeles.

Justin Smoak and Kyle Seager scored unearned runs for the Mariners, who had lost 18 of their last 21 games at Angel Stadium before Tuesday, when Hernandez (14-11) went eight innings and outpitched Ervin Santana.

Los Angeles committed four errors and dropped 3-1/2 games behind Texas in the AL West standings.

Santana (11-10) yielded seven hits over six muddled innings in his 200th career start for the Angels, losing for just the second time in 13 starts.

White Sox 3, Twins 0

In Minneapolis, Jake Peavy struck out a season-high nine to guide Chicago past Minnesota.

Peavy (7-7) pitched 6 1-3 scoreless innings against a Twins team that had three players who were called up from the second tier of the minors in the past two days.

Alex Rios homered and Alejandro De Aza had two hits, including a triple, and an RBI for the White Sox, who have won three in a row.

Twins starter Liam Hendriks (0-1) allowed three runs over seven innings in his major league debut.

Royals 7, Athletics 4

In Oakland, Eric Hosmer and Jeff Francoeur hit back-to-back home runs in the second inning to set up Kansas City's win over Oakland.

Salvador Perez added three hits while six players drove in runs for the Royals, who have scored 29 runs in their past three road games.

Kansas City starter Danny Duffy (4-8) notched his first win in a month, allowing only four hits over 6 1-3 innings in what is likely his final start of the year.

A's starter Gio Gonzalez (12-12) gave up a career-worst 10 hits.

Phillies 6, Braves 3

In Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Phillies extended their lead over Atlanta atop the National League East to 9-1/2 games by beating the Braves.

The major league-leading Phillies reduced their magic number—the combination of their wins and Atlanta's losses—for clinching a fifth straight division title to 14 games. They have won at least 90 games in four consecutive seasons for the first time in franchise history.

Rookie starter Vance Worley (11-1) allowed two runs, striking out six to earn his ninth straight win. The Phillies have won Worley's last 14 starts. That's the most for a rookie since 1970. It's also the most for any Phillies pitcher since the team won 15 straight starts by Steve Carlton in 1972.

Braves starter Tim Hudson (14-9) gave up four runs in six innings.

Cardinals 4, Brewers 2

In St. Louis, Kyle Lohse threw six scoreless innings to guide St. Louis to victory over Milwaukee.

Lohse (13-8), who leads the Cardinals in victories, struck out six. His scheduled start was pushed back two days after a poor performance in his previous outing.

Jon Jay and Matt Holliday both hit homers for St. Louis off Milwaukee starter Yovanni Gallardo (15-10), who has given up six long shots in his past 10-2/3 innings, all of which were against the Cardinals. He conceded three runs in six innings.

The Brewers' comfortable lead over the Cardinals in the NL Central was trimmed to 9-1/2 games.

Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 3

In Denver, Colorado piled on seven runs with two outs in the eighth inning, overwhelming Arizona.

Troy Tulowitzki homered, Seth Smith tripled twice, while Jordan Pacheco and Carlos Gonzalez had two hits apiece for the Rockies.

Arizona led 3-1 and appeared headed to its fourth straight win when the Rockies came alive in the eighth. With a man on first, Mark Ellis singled to left and Carlos Gonzalez knocked in the go-ahead run with a single off David Hernandez (3-3).

Tulowitzki followed with his 30th homer of the season to make it 5-3.

Colorado's Matt Belisle (10-4) got the win.

Giants 6, Padres 4

In San Diego, San Francisco escaped a bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the ninth inning, squeezing out a win over San Diego.

With the Giants leading 6-3, Orlando Hudson was walked on four pitches to open the Padres ninth. After two outs, rookie Anthony Rizzo hit an RBI double, and two hit batters then loaded the bases. The Giants then turned to Ramon Ramirez, the sixth reliever, who struck out the last batter to end the game.

Earlier, San Francisco rookie Brett Pill hit a two-run homer in his first big league at-bat, while starter Eric Surkamp (1-0) earned his first major league win, allowing five hits in as many innings.

The defending World Series champions pulled within six games of NL West-leading Arizona with 20 to go.

San Diego's Wade LeBlanc (2-5) got the loss.

Dodgers 7, Nationals 3

In Washington, Stephen Strasburg threw five scoreless innings in his first major league start since undergoing Tommy John surgery, but the bullpen blew the lead as Los Angeles beat Washington.

The 2009 No. 1 draft pick displayed the repertoire that wowed the baseball world last year during a rookie season cut short by injury.

Strasburg threw 56 pitches, 40 for strikes. He struck out four.

The Nationals led 3-0 when he left, but the Dodgers took the lead for good on Rod Barajas' two-run double in the eighth inning off Henry Rodriguez (3-3). Kelly Jansen (2-1) got the win.

Mets 7, Marlins 4, 12 innings

In Miami, Nick Evans drove in three runs, including a go-ahead single in the 12th inning, to lead New York over Florida.

Jose Reyes, Justin Turner, Angel Pagan, and Evans each had three hits for New York, which lost a two-run lead in the bottom of the ninth inning.

Marlins reliever Jose Ceda (0-1) gave up three straight hits to begin the 12th, including Evan's soft liner to center that scored Pagan. Later in the inning, Reyes hit an RBI single and Lucas Duda drew a bases-loaded walk to give the Mets a 7-4 lead.

New York's Ryota Igarashi (4-1) got the win in a game that lasted 4 hours, 29 minutes, including a 1:14 rain delay.

Reds 4, Cubs 2, 13 innings

In Chicago, Joey Votto hit a tiebreaking RBI double in the 13th inning as Cincinnati recovered from blowing a two-run lead in the ninth and still beat Chicago.

In the ninth, Reds starter Mike Leake had been closing in on his first career shutout when Starlin Castro reached on a two-out single and Bryan LaHair drove a pitch over the wall in right for his first homer since 2008, tying the game.

Reds reliever Aroldis Chapman (4-1) got four outs for the victory and Francisco Cordero got three outs for his 321st career save, tying Jose Mesa for the most by a pitcher from the Dominican Republic.

Chicago's John Grabow (3-1) got the loss.

Astros 4, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Brett Myers pitched into the eighth inning to earn his first win in 2-1/2 months, leading Houston over Pittsburgh.

Myers (4-13) allowed one run over 7 2-3 innings as last-place Houston snapped a four-game losing skid. He had lost seven consecutive decisions coming into the game.

Humberto Quintero had three RBIs for the Astros and Jimmy Paredes finished with three hits.

Former No. 4 draft pick Brad Lincoln (1-2) allowed two runs in six innings for the Pirates.

Sources: Next NBA meeting set for Wednesday

NEW YORK (AP)—NBA players and owners will resume talks on Wednesday, two people with knowledge of the plans said Tuesday. This comes a week after the sides vowed to meet more frequently in hopes of reaching a new collective bargaining agreement.

The session will be just the third between top negotiators since the lockout started July 1. But with the opening of training camps less than a month away, both sides said they recognized the urgency to pick up the pace.

The meeting—expected to be a small group—will be in New York. The site hasn't been disclosed.

No new proposals were exchanged last week during a meeting that lasted about six hours. Neither side shared many details, saying they preferred to keep the nature of the talks private.

Commissioner David Stern said afterward there was still "clearly enough time" to make a deal that would allow the regular season to open as scheduled on Nov. 1. However, a gap remains between the financial changes owners are seeking and what players have been willing to accept.

"I could see it going either way," two-time MVP Steve Nash of the Phoenix Suns told The Canadian Press on Tuesday. "It looks like right now we probably won't start on time.

"Hopefully, as we start to get into the time of year where everyone is missing basketball, we can all start to concede on some points that each other are looking for and find a middle ground. That would be the best of both worlds."

Jaguars release Garrard, plan to start McCown

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—David Garrard lost his starting job the same way he got it: Just days before the season opener and in stunning fashion. The Jacksonville Jaguars released Garrard on Tuesday, making a "pure football decision" that will save the franchise $9 million in 2011.

Whether it saves coach Jack Del Rio's job remains to be seen. Team owner Wayne Weaver has said Jacksonville needs to make the playoffs for Del Rio to stick around for a 10th season.

Del Rio made it clear late last season that he had grown tired of Garrard's inconsistent ways, but the coach remained steadfast through training camp and the preseason that Garrard was his starter. That changed Tuesday, when the Jaguars parted ways with Garrard after nine up-and-down seasons.

"He just couldn't get it going," said Del Rio, who added that the team didn't try to trade Garrard. "I had met with him a couple of weeks ago and brought him in and said, 'Hey, listen, you're my guy. I need you to get it going.' He was given every opportunity. He was somewhat apologetic that he wasn't able to deliver."

AP

This photo taken Sept. 1, 2011 shows Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback David Garrard (9) getting up after being sacked during the first half of an NFL preseason football game against the St. Louis Rams in Jacksonville, Fla.

Del Rio turned the starting job over to Luke McCown, who outplayed Garrard and rookie Blaine Gabbert in the preseason. Playing mostly with and against second- and third-teamers, McCown completed 12 of 18 passes for 133 yards, with two touchdowns, no interceptions and no sacks.

"I was shocked by the decision," tight end Marcedes Lewis said. "They obviously felt it was time to go in a different direction. Luke had a great camp, everyone knows that, and now he's the guy. There's no drop-off. We believe in Luke and we're going to rally around him."

Garrard missed the preseason opener because of a sore back, but started the final three games. He completed 50 percent of his passes for 216 yards, with no touchdowns and an interception. He was sacked three times.

Garrard didn't return phone or text messages seeking comment, but he thanked fans on his Twitter feed.

"Thank you jaguar fans for an awesome ride! You are the best fans ever," he wrote. "You'll always have a special place in my heart and my family's heart!"

The move was similar to what Del Rio did in 2007, when he released Byron Leftwich in favor of Garrard after the preseason finale. Garrard played well that season, throwing 18 touchdown passes and just three interceptions.

He's been average since, with 53 TDs and 38 INTs over the last three seasons. He also has been sacked 117 times in that span.

His performance late last season was one of the final straws.

With running back Maurice Jones-Drew sitting out against Washington, the Jaguars put the game on Garrard's shoulders and he struggled to handle the load. He failed to read Washington's cloaked defensive schemes and nearly ended the day with five turnovers.

The Jaguars responded by drafting Gabbert with the 10th pick in April's draft. Gabbert would have been given a chance to win the starting job in camp, but the NFL lockout denied him a summer filled with meetings, film work and organized team activities.

Gabbert dropped to third on the depth chart last week. McCown moved up to second, although no one knew he was actually auditioning for the starting job.

"Our starter is our starter until he's not our starter," Del Rio said. "That's the way it works. To do it any other way creates a circus atmosphere. We have not had that. We've had a very purposeful camp, we've had a very workmanlike, businesslike training camp. A decision was made in the best interest of the football team, and now we go forward."

Garrard ends his Jacksonville career with 16,003 yards passing, 89 touchdowns, 54 interceptions and a 39-37 record. He also ran for 1,746 yards and 17 scores.

Garrard's final game was one of his worst. He was hit repeatedly in last week's preseason finale against St. Louis and misfired on four of five passes. He ended the night with an animated exchange with his offensive line on the sideline.

That, too, had become an issue inside the facility, with Garrard pointing the finger more often than taking the blame.

Del Rio called Garrard a middle-tier quarterback after the 2009 season, and Weaver challenged him to do more with teammates that offseason.

Garrard did. He responded by setting the franchise record for touchdown passes in a season (23), enjoyed five of the best eight games of his career, and led the Jaguars to several late wins. But he struggled down the stretch.

It became clear Monday how teammates felt about Garrard. They declined to vote Garrard a team captain, instead choosing Jones-Drew and Lewis as offensive captains.

Garrard was released the next day.

"I think he's handled it like a man, like he's handled everything else," general manager Gene Smith said. "I think he's been a tremendous example how to handle adversity since he's been here. ... At some point, you have to go through this as an NFL player."

Rain postpones all of Tuesday's US Open matches

NEW YORK (AP)—A little after 3 p.m. Tuesday, Rafael Nadal settled in at a table in the U.S. Open players' cafeteria and sprinkled some salt on his lunch of salmon and rice.

The day's work for the defending champion was complete, consisting of a 1 1/2-hour practice session indoors at Flushing Meadows instead of his scheduled fourth-round match outdoors, because steady rain washed out all of Tuesday's action.

Sitting a couple of seats away, Toni Nadal—Rafael's uncle and coach—laughed at a question about the scary scene during a post-match news conference over the weekend, when his nephew grimaced and called for a trainer's help for right leg cramps, then slid out of his chair to the floor.

"He's perfectly healthy, with no problems at all," Uncle Toni said. "He's good. Practice was normal yesterday, and normal today."

During last year's run to his first U.S. Open title, which completed a career Grand Slam, Nadal served superbly—"His best serving in one tournament," Uncle Toni called it—regularly hitting aces at more than 130 mph and getting broken a total of five times in seven matches.

This year, Nadal already was broken nine times in three matches, and six in his opener alone.

"In the first round, he played no good. He made so many mistakes. He was broken so much. But after, he played so much better," Uncle Toni said. "I'm not worried about his serve. His serve isn't a problem."

Indeed, their biggest concern suddenly is when the weather will allow players to get back on court. As it is, the men in the second-seeded Nadal's half of the draw—such as No. 4 Andy Murray, No. 21 Andy Roddick and No. 28 John Isner—could be forced to play four matches in five days, or even worse.

"We would prefer to play today, because after not playing today, every day is one day less," Uncle Toni said. "That makes it more complicated."

The men in the other half of the field, including No. 1 Novak Djokovic and 16-time major champion Roger Federer, already have progressed to the quarterfinals.

"It's a huge advantage for the top half right now. They have one match to play in the next four days, and the other guys have two—and then they'll have two more after that," said U.S. Davis Cup captain Jim Courier, a four-time Grand Slam title winner. "It's the luck of the draw."

There is no permanent or retractable roof on any court used for matches at the U.S. Open, unlike at Wimbledon and the Australian Open. The French Open announced plans to install a retractable roof on center court by 2016.

Citing financial concerns and technical complexities, the U.S. Tennis Association says it doesn't have plans to put a roof on Arthur Ashe Stadium, although it is still studying possible options. Past estimates put the cost of a roof at $150 million to $200 million.

And so wet weather affects plans at the year's last Grand Slam tournament, where rain pushed the men's final back a day to Monday in 2008, 2009 and 2010. The two-week U.S. Open began Aug. 29, and is scheduled to end Sunday.

Tuesday was the first time play has been delayed by rain this year, postponing a total of 54 matches—four in the fourth round of men's singles, two in the quarterfinals of women's singles, along with doubles and juniors—at least until Wednesday, when the forecast predicts more rain.

The men's matches originally set for Tuesday were Nadal against unseeded Gilles Muller of Luxembourg; Roddick, the 2003 U.S. Open champion, against No. 5 David Ferrer of Spain; Isner against No. 12 Gilles Simon of France; and three-time Grand Slam finalist Murray against unseeded Donald Young of the United States.

In women's singles, No. 2 Vera Zvonareva was to face No. 9 Sam Stosur, and No. 26 Flavia Pennetta was scheduled to play unseeded Angelique Kerber of Germany.

Those six matches now are on Wednesday's schedule, plus the other two women's quarterfinals—13-time major champion Serena Williams vs. No. 17 Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, and No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki vs. No. 10 Andrea Petkovic—and the first two men's quarterfinals—Djokovic vs. No. 20 Janko Tipsarevic, and Federer vs. No. 11 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga.

"It's going to get crazy once it gets going," Courier said.

The schedule-juggling produced a couple of notable tweaks.

Because the tournament wants to try to ensure that if tennis is played Wednesday, the held-over men's matches can get on court as early as possible, Roddick-Ferrer was shifted from Arthur Ashe Stadium on Tuesday night to Louis Armstrong Stadium at 11 a.m. Wednesday. And Young's first Grand Slam quarterfinal, against the far-more-experienced Murray, was shifted from the 23,771-seat Ashe to the 6,106-seat Grandstand.

"Donald might be more comfortable on a smaller court ... out of the spotlight," Courier said.

Roddick hasn't played anywhere at Flushing Meadows other than Ashe since Sept. 3, 2002, when he beat Juan Ignacio Chela at Armstrong in the fourth round; that's 39 consecutive U.S. Open matches at Ashe.

Roddick acknowledges that gives him a sort of home-court advantage there.

"Yes, yes, there's definitely things that are always the same out there and things that appear to be one way and they are definitely the other way," Roddick explained after his third-round victory Sunday. "I would sit here and go through them all, but that would pretty much waste all of the experience that you are asking me about."

Fresco, Cell Pro, Inchcape still alive in Blue Haus caging

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

C Bracket's Fresco Saipan and Cell Pro along with A Bracket's Inchcape advanced to the third round of the Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League playoffs after last weekend's matchups held at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

On Sunday, Fresco Saipan defeated Jacem Printing 80-76, while prior to the late tiff Sherwin Williams was leading NVM, 29-18, at the half, but the game was suspended due to time constraints.

Last Friday, Cell Pro defeated GPPC, 72-67; while Inchcape routed Pacific Postal, 81-61, with a big fourth quarter push.

In Sunday's match, Jacem's Brandon Auleriuo caught fire early with a couple of long balls for eight points to give his team an early 18-11 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Fresco's Jerry Mabini, however, answered with 10 markers in the second period to go with a pair of treys by teammate Jay-Ar Concepcion that allowed Fresco to enter the halftime break ahead, 38-30.

Concepcion buried two more three-balls in the third quarter that helped maintain a 56-47 margin for his side heading into the payoff period.

Jacem did not go quietly and connected with two late 3-pointers for a late comeback attempt, but Fresco's Edwin Camacho came off the bench for 11 big points in the clutch and his team converted four pressure-packed free throws to secure the victory and advance to the next round.

Mabini and Concepcion combined for 42 points, while Jacem's Aulerio managed 18 in the loss.

In Friday's opening game, Cell Pro jumped out to an early 12-point lead, 22-10, thanks largely to 14 points from Roger Herrera.

Cell Pro's defense remained strong in the second period as it pulled away and led, 39-23, at intermission.

Cell Pro's Dick Tibayan paced the squad with six points in the second quarter.

GPPC postured a comeback in the third quarter as the team earned 12 points from the charity stripe in the period.

That allowed GPPC to trim its deficit to eight, 45-53, heading into the final canto; Cell Pro's Herrera added six markers in the third quarter.

GPPC remained on the heels of its opponents, but Cell Pro milked the clock and drained four free throws in the final minute to secure the victory.

Herrera finished with a team-high 20 points, while GPPC's Alex Ocampo led all scorers with 24.

In Friday's late match, Inchcape started slow and trailed Pacific Postal, 18-13, in the opening period.

Pacific Postal's Rommel Usi carried the torch with nine points. Inchcape's offense continued to stall into the second quarter as Pacific Postal maintained a 33-29 margin at the half.

Then after the break, Inchcape erupted to claim the lead, 50-48, heading into the final period.

Inchcape buried a trio of 3-pointers right out of the gate that kept a lid on Pacific Postal on the defensive end.

Inchcape then saved its best for last, blowing past its rival at the end. Ian Castro led the late surge with 15 points in the clutch.

Castro finished with a game-high 26 points, while Usi was shut down in the second half, but still led Pacific Postal with 15 markers in defeat.

SUNDAY

Fresco 80 – Mabini 22, Concepcion 20, Camacho 16, Lansang 8, Hernandez 6, Santos 4, Rivera 2, Zhe 2.

NVM 76 – Aulerio 18, Guinto 15, DLGuerrero 8, Manalo 8, Mateo 6, Olivos 5, Arzadan 3, Litulumar 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-18, 38-30, 56-47, 80-76.

FRIDAY
First Game

Cell Pro 72 – Herrera 20, Itaas 19, Ritual 9, Tibayan 8, Hernandez 8, Loste 3, Norita 2, Rotap 2.

GPPC 67 – Ocampo 24, Mungcal 15, Tolentino 10, Sampang 6, Averas, 4, Rivera 3, Timbal 3, Garilo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-10, 39-23, 53-45, 72-67.

Second Game

Inchcape 81 – Castro 26, Miranda 16, Del Rosario 11, DLGuerrero 10, Guinto 10, Villasan 3, Buenabajo 2, Echavez 2.

Pacific Postal 61 – R. Usi 15, Bicera 9, M. Usi 9, Acosta 8, Aque 7, Agbalog 6, Claveria 5, Bautista 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-18,

CNMI

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ours later, the CNMI shut out Palau, 8-0.

"Today (yesterday) was a great day for the CNMI. Our baseball team came here to win the gold medal and tomorrow, they will have the chance to do just that. We played two very good games today (yesterday). We will need our best tomorrow against Guam. The team is confident, and so am I," CNMI chef de mission and NMASA president Michael White said in an email to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The CNMI will duel archrival Guam in the gold medal game tomorrow at 10am (9am Saipan time). Tomorrow's game is a rematch of the 2006 Micronesian Games finals which the CNMI won, 3-2. Guam edged the CNMI in their elimination round match in New Caledonia last week, 6-5.

CNMI 11, New Caledonia 5

Up against the host team and its throng of supporters, the CNMI got off to a slow start and trailed, 5-3, after three complete innings.

The CNMI sluggers drew first blood with a two-run top of the first and added one more run in the third. New Caledonia failed to score in the first inning, reached home plate in the second and came out strong in the third, making four runs to take the lead.

Franco Flores started for the CNMI, pitched for 2.2 innings and allowed the host to score three runs. Elton Santos replaced Flores on the mound midway in the third inning and the latter stopped the bleeding for the CNMI, allowing only three hits, no run, and striking out six. Ace pitcher Josh Jones came in for Santos in the seventh inning and shut out the host, giving up only one base on ball and striking three.

On offense, after an up-and-down performance in the first seven innings, the CNMI sluggers turned it on in the eighth inning, scoring six runs. Before its six-run top of the eighth, the Commonwealth bets were in a deadlock against New Caledonia after seven complete innings, 5-all.

Jesus Iguel logged three runs for the CNMI on a 3-for-5 performance at bat. Juan Maratita also scored three runs, hitting 2-for-5 and making one RBI. Manny Sablan failed to score a single run, but recorded three RBIs and was 2-for-4 at bat. Keoni Lizama tallied two RBIs despite going 1-for-5 at bat. Jerome Delos Santos, Byron Kaipat, Mike Iguel, Tyrone Omar, and Eric Tenorio made one run apiece for the CNMI.

The win over New Caledonia avenged the Commonwealth's 2-3 loss against the host in the elimination round last week.

CNMI 8, Palau 0

Rogolifoi's wards returned to the field after a brief break and had enough juice left to squeeze an 8-0 victory over Palau.

It was the CNMI's second win over Palau and the latter was dethroned and settled for the bronze medal. Palau lost to the Commonwealth sluggers in the elimination round, 0-1, and the erstwhile champion's struggle continued in the important game.

After closing for the CNMI against New Caledonia, Jones started for the Commonwealth in its semis game versus Palau and gave the eventual bronze medalist another nightmare. Jones allowed only one hit and two walks in nine innings and struck out 12. In their first game against Palau, Jones had 14 strikeouts.

The CNMI and Palau were both scoreless in the first three innings, before the former got out of the slump in the next two innings, making five runs.

Kaipat put the Commonwealth on the scoreboard at the top of the fourth when he doubled to center field and brought Sablan and Maratita home.

Omar then gave the Commonwealth its third run at the top of the fifth when he doubled and reached home plate off a Palau error. Maratita was next, as he was hit by a pitch, stole second, advanced to third, and made it home off a throwing error from the right field. Jesus Iguel made it a 5-0 lead after scoring off yet another mistake from Palau.

In the next three innings, the CNMI slowed down, drilling one run each, but it was enough to keep the win, as Palau remained hapless on offense. Palau's best chance to score came at the bottom of the eighth when Melngis Andre Uchel walked and advanced to second off a wild pitch. The Palau runner then attempted to run to third, but was tagged out by Maratita off a good throw from Omar from centerfield.

The loss was a heartbreaker for Palau, as it failed to advance to the finals for the second straight time. The 2007 Pacific Games champion lost to Guam last Tuesday in the first semis game, 0-4.

ABRAMS

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ted 5.90m in the long jump for 11th place.

In beach volleyball, the CNMI's Tyce Mister and Chris Nelson absorbed their second straight setback after losing to brothers Dino and Vatea Tauraa of Tahiti, 11-21, 13-21. The Commonwealth pair won its first game over Palau last Monday before bowing to American Samoa last Tuesday. With their back-to-back losses, Nelson and Mister are out of the medal hunt.

New Caledonia sits comfortable on top of the medal board with only three days left in the competition. The host has an 86-72-35 gold-silver-bronze tally as of 8pm last night. Tahiti and Fiji are in second and third, respectively.

CABALEN

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Ali'i Konflikt within three, 88-91, 59.6 seconds to go in the game. Pagarao upped the lead to five with a difficult fall-away jumper and when Ali'i Konflikt took possession this time it failed to produce when Guiab missed a short jumper.

With the clock ticking down, Ali'i Konflikt was forced to give up fouls, but sent the wrong guy to the foul line, as Bon Tamayo calmly sunk both free throws for Cabalen's 95-88 advantage, with 43 seconds left on the clock.

Ali'i Konflikt muffed its chances to slice the lead when it faltered on its three attempts. Esdrelon's triple rattled in and out of the rim and Jawn Joyner's two putbacks also missed the target. Joyner later connected on a desperation three, but it was not enough to bring Ali'i Konflikt back into the game, which Pagarao sealed after going 2-for-4 in the last 20 minutes of the match.

Pagarao paced Cabalen with 22 points, while Bernardo and Abuel contributed 21 and 19 markers, respectively. Esdrelon top-scored for Ali'i Konflikt with 20, while Joyner and Barrios combined for 29 points. Ivan Devero also finished in double figures with 14, but was scoreless in the fourth quarter.

Cabalen/Noni 97 – Pagarao 22, Bernardo 21 Abuel 19, Yabut 8, Demapan 8, Tamayo 7, Basila 5.

MAFEA/ Ali'i Konflikt 91 – Esdrelon 20, Joyner 15, Devero 14, Barrios 14, Tumaquip 11, Mendoza 9, Guiab 4, Talania 2, Cruz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-23, 48-42, 70-63, 97-91.

MDX

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While MDX had a balanced offense in the fourth quarter, Cabalen had a two-man show. Only Tony Diaz and Edsel Mendoza logged more than one field goal for the defending champion, with the former nailing nine points and the latter chipping in six. Edwin Santos was only the third Cabalen player to make it to the scoreboard in the payoff canto with his two points.

Coming into the game with undefeated records, MDX and Cabalen were pretty even after 10 minutes of play. Abuy canned two early triples and scored eight points to give MDX a two-point lead, 20-18.

At halftime, MDX and Cabalen were back to square one, as the game was tied, 41-all. Montano scored 10 points for MDX in the second canto, while Mendoza had nine for Cabalen. Montano was still on target in the third period, adding eight more points, while Mendoza slowed down and made only one field goal. However, Alex Ocampo stepped up for Cabalen with seven markers and drew support from three other teammates to give the defending champions a three-point lead at the end of the third period.

In the fourth quarter, Mendoza regained his form and Diaz also hit his mark, but unfortunately majority of Cabalen players struggled in the most important stretch of the match.

Montano led MDX with 24 points, while Abuy and Moreno finished with 22 and 14, respectively. Diaz and Mendoza had 24 apiece for Cabalen, which drew 15 markers from Ocampo.

MDX/Armatech 92 – Montano 24 Abuy 22, Moreno 14, Banatasa 9, Berline 8, Trajano 8, Tobias 2.

Cabalen/Wings Travel 80 – Diaz 24, Mendoza 24, Ocampo 15, Santos 9, Yalung 2, Atalig 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-18, 41-41, 62-65, 92-80.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	87	53	.621	–
Boston	85	56	.603	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	77	64	.546	10 1/2
Toronto	70	72	.493	18
Baltimore	55	85	.393	32

Central Division

Detroit	80	62	.563	–
Chicago	71	69	.507	8
Cleveland	70	69	.504	8 1/2
Kansas City	60	83	.420	20 1/2
Minnesota	58	84	.408	22

West Division

Texas	81	62	.566	–
Los Angeles	77	65	.542	3 1/2
Oakland	64	78	.451	16 1/2
Seattle	59	82	.418	21

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	90	48	.652	–
Atlanta	82	59	.582	9 1/2
New York	69	71	.493	22
Washington	65	75	.464	26
Florida	63	78	.447	28 1/2

Central Division

Milwaukee	85	58	.594	–
St. Louis	75	67	.528	9 1/2
Cincinnati	70	72	.493	14 1/2
Pittsburgh	65	77	.458	19 1/2
Chicago	61	81	.430	23 1/2
Houston	48	94	.338	36 1/2

West Division

Arizona	81	61	.570	–
San Francisco	75	67	.528	6
Los Angeles	69	72	.489	11 1/2
Colorado	67	75	.472	14
San Diego	61	81	.430	20

Yesterday's Games

Philadelphia 6, Atlanta 3
Houston 4, Pittsburgh 1
L.A. Dodgers 7, Washington 3
N.Y. Mets 7, Florida 4, 12 innings
Cincinnati 4, Chicago Cubs 2, 13 innings
St. Louis 4, Milwaukee 2
Colorado 8, Arizona 3
San Francisco 6, San Diego 4
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 3
Detroit 10, Cleveland 1
Boston 14, Toronto 0
Texas 8, Tampa Bay 0
Chicago White Sox 3, Minnesota 0
Kansas City 7, Oakland 4
Seattle 2, L.A. Angels 1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2nd Docomo Classic Golf Tournament

PHOTOS BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

From left, James Lee, Martin Duenas, and John Sablan are among the more than 99 golfers who joined the tournament.

Female participants in the 2nd Docomo Classic Golf Tournament pose for a group photo during the awards ceremony at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

From left, Alex Sablan, Jay Santos, and Mel Tenorio are all smiles for the camera.

From left, Das Krishnan, Steve Jang, and Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz pose for a group photo.

Four golfers pose for a group photo.

A big group of golfers pose for a photo while waiting for the raffle drawing at the awards banquet.

Jeong Yoon Kim, left, receives the closest to the pin shot prize from Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Jim Arenovski, left, joins three others at the banquet for the 2nd Docomo Classic Golf Tournament.

NTT Docomo Pacific chief financial officer Hide Hayashi delivers a message to participants and supporters of the tournament.

Jaguars release Garrard, plan to start McCown

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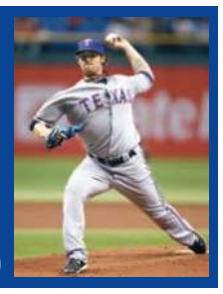
Saipan Tribune
Sports

Wilson shutout as Rangers beat Rays



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CNMI vs Guam in gold medal game

EMELINDA CABRERA

CNMI's Manny Sablan waits for a pitch, while Tyrone Omar is preparing to run from third base during their game against American Samoa in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia last Friday. The CNMI won, 9-4, and also beat New Caledonia and Palau yesterday to advance to the finals against Guam.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Baseball Team is a win away from bringing home the gold medal in the 2011 Pacific Games.

The Commonwealth sluggers earned the right to face Guam in the championship match tomorrow, following back-to-back playoff wins yesterday at the Robinson Baseball Field in Mont-Dore, New Caledonia. The Tony Rogolifoi-managed squad eked out a come-from-behind win over New Caledonia in the morning playoff match, 11-5, and less than three

See CNMI on Page 26

Abrams makes 200m finals

Abrams

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

More good news from New Caledonia.

CNMI sprinter Rachel Abrams advanced to the finals of the 200m run in the 2011 Pacific Games after placing second in her heat yesterday at the Stade Numa Daly in Noumea.

Abrams timed in at 27.46 seconds to earn one of the two qualifying slots on Heat 3. Papua New Guinea's Venessa Waro took the other finals berth after clocking in at 26.06 seconds.

"Wow. That's awesome. It's history for us, as we never made it to the finals of the Pacific Games before," Northern Marianas Athletics head coach Elias Rangamar said in a telephone interview yesterday after hearing the good news.

"The NMA family wishes Rachel all the best in the finals. We're excited for her," Rangamar added.

Abrams will race in the 200m run finals today at 5:20pm (4:20 Saipan time) against PNG's Waro, Helen Philemon (25.95 seconds), and Toea Wisil (25.12 seconds), Fiji's Paulini Korowaqa (25.33 seconds), Sisilia Seavula (26.00), and Danielle Ala Kija (26.27 seconds), and Vanuatu's Daphne Nalawas (26.47 seconds).

In the qualifying heat, Abrams defeated Vanuatu's Susan Tama (27.52 seconds), New Caledonia's Chloe Thavel (27.74 seconds), and Nauru's Myshine Raidinen (29.72 seconds).

Trevor Ogumoro also competed in athletics yesterday and submit-

See ABRAMS on Page 26

Cabalen/Noni outlasts Ali'i Konflikt

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Cabalen/Noni withstood MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt's repeated rallies to pull off a 97-91 victory in the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

The win was the third in four games for Noni, moving the team up from fifth to a tie for third place with Bayani/Mobil. Ali'i Konflikt continued its on-and-off performance and dropped to a 3-4 mark.

Ali'i Konflikt played catch up all night and was frustrated as every time it closed in, Cabalen found ways to move out of trouble with Wowie Abuel, Kae Bernardo, and Lerio Pagarao alternately drilling rally halting baskets.

Abuel hit back-to-back triples in the closing seconds of the third quarter, turning a slim 64-63 lead to a 70-63 cushion entering the payoff period.

Noni made it a nine-point lead midway in the fourth, 85-76, but Junar Guiab and Elmer Esdrelon scored four quick points to stay afloat. Pagarao and Bernardo answered with their own four-point swing to widen the gap anew, but again Ali'i Konflikt kept fighting. This trend continued in the next four minutes of the fourth canto before Ali'i Konflikt run out of options in the last minute of the match.

A completed 3-point play from J.R. Barrios moved

See CABALEN on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Cabalen/Noni's Banjo Basila drives against MAFEA/Ali'iKonflikt's Jawn Joyner during the fourth quarter of their game in the UFO Bud Cup caging at the TSL Sports Complex.

MDX *hands* Cabalen *1st loss*

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MDX/Armatech won the battle of unbeaten teams in the UFO Inter-Organization Masters Basketball Docomo Pacific Cup 2011 after outclassing Cabalen/Wings Travel, 92-80, on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

MDX now has a 3-0 record for the solo lead in the five-team field. Cabalen fell to a 3-1 slate, as it lost the lead and the game when MDX saved its best for last with a 30-point production in the fourth quarter against the former's 15.

Cabalen had the upper hand after the third period, 65-62, but MDX poured it on in the final canto to steal the victory. Martin Moreno and Toto Banatasa anchored MDX's big plays in the fourth, combining for 14 points, while James Abuy and Bernard Montano also contributed in the team's cause with six points apiece. Bruce Berline and Bong Malasarte also scored for MDX in the fourth period.

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